Hib. 7. 681. 19

A COLLECTION OF LETTERS AND OTHER WRITINGS,

RELATING TO THE

Horrid Popish Plot.

23

Printed from the ORIGINALS in the Hands of

George Treby Esq;

Chairman of the COMMITTEE of *Secrecy*

Of the HONOURABLE

Houle of Commons.

CAMBRIDGE 1876 BRABS. LIBRARY

Published by Order of that House.

DUBLIN, Reprinted *Anno Dom.* M DC LXXXI.

07-1479

TO THE READER.

THE Letters and Writings here publiſh'd are indubitably Authentick. They were all (except thoſe of which account is given at the end) found and ſeized in Mr. Coleman's House at the time of his Commitment, and owned by himſelf; and particularly at his Tryal; when ſeveral of the Letters written by and to him were produced and read, and then mark'd by the Clerk of the Crown with Lect. pro Rege, as is here printed in the Margents. And they were by His Majeſties Order delivered to the Houſes of Parliament, and thence delivered to the Committee of Secrecy.

Alſo the hand-writing of Mr. Coleman, the Cardinal of Norfolk, Mr. Leyburne, Sir William Throgmorton, and the late Earl of Barkſhire, by the name of William Rice, have been proved by Teſtimony of ſuch Witneſſes as well knew the ſame.

The Letters writ by Mr. Coleman are printed from the Original draughts, written by him in French, and tranſlated by Order of the Privy Council; and ſuch of the Letters ſent to Mr. Coleman which were written in French, were tranſlated either by the ſame Order, or by Order of one of the Houſes of Parliament.

The Letters writ by Mr. Coleman were read in the Houſe of Commons in this and the Two laſt Parliaments, and the reſt either read, or in ſubſtance reported in this and the laſt Parliament, by their Orders.

In moſt of theſe Letters the principal and material words and names of Perſons and Places were writ in Cypher, but have been exactly decypher'd by the Keys or Tables which were found together with them.

In ſeveral of them there were uſed Figurative words, or words of Cabal; the meaning of which, is conjectured from the Tenor and Sence of the Correſpondence, as (in the Allegories uſed between Mr. Coleman and

the Nuntio) *the word* Creditors *appears to ſignifie Adverſaries*; Debtors, *Friends*, Eaſt-India Company, *the Parliament*; *and* Trade *and* Traffique, *the adminiſtration of publick Affairs. So* Suit, *appears to ſignifie conteſting* (*eſpecially in Parliament*) *concerning the* Popiſh Intereſt, definitive Sentence, *gaining the point in that Conteſt. And in the like* Metaphorical *Sence, are uſed* Proceſs, Lawyers, Advocates, &c.

The Correſpondents in theſe Letters, do ſeldom uſe the Firſt *Perſon when they mention themſelves; or the* Second *Perſon, when they mean him to whom it is written, but they uſe the* Cypher *of their Names for the Perſons. And accordingly they are decypher'd and render'd in the* Third *Perſon, As in the* Cardinals *Letters to Mr.* Coleman, *it is written that the* Cardinal *of* Norfolk *did ſo, and* Mr. Coleman *ſhould do* thus, &c.

The Houſe of Commons *intended and directed Exactneſs of Truth in this* Publication. *In obſervance of which not only* Mr. Coleman's *but the Letters of the* Cardinal *and others, which contain ſeveral paſſages not directly relating to the* main *Deſign, are publiſh'd* at Large, *ſo as they ſtand repreſented to the World without any other diſadvantage than what is inherent in* themſelves. *But ſeveral Letters of* Mr. Leyburn, *and ſome of the Letters of others of the leſſer Correſpondents, being ſtuft with common and ordinary News, that News, and* that *only is omitted in this Print.*

Some of the Letters ſeized at Mr. Coleman's *are not decypherable by all or any of the* Keys *found, of which, however* one *is thought fit to be publiſht, which is inſerted towards the end.*

George Treby.

From

A Letter *from Mr.* Coleman *to the* French *King's Confessor*, June *the* 29th 1674.

AM commanded to tell you, that his *Royal Highness*, my *Master*, is very sensible of the friendship of his *most Christian Majesty*, which he will endeavour to cultivate very *carefully*, & to give him all possible *Assurance* of it, to take away all *Jealousies* that his Enemies would raise to the contrary. *Lect pro Rege.*

That his RoyalHighness has done nothing in any manner whatsoever, nor in any place, against the interest of his *most Christian Majesty*, but hath rendred him all the *good Offices* he hath been capable of.

That as for recalling the *Parliament*, and touching my Lord *A*—— his Highness is altogether of the opinion of his Majesty, that neither one nor other is useful, but quite contrary, very dangerous as well for *England* as *France*, and that his *most Christian Majesty* is in great danger of losing the *Neutrality* of *England*, at the *next Sessions*, (if the Parliament meet) as he lost its *Alliance* by the *Peace of Holland* at the *last*; because the *Lower House* and their Friends (as the furious Protestants, and the Malecontents in the House of Lords) have a design to lessen his *Royal Highness*, *and* root out the *Catholick Religion*, and they think they cannot make use of any other fitter means to attain their end, than to *raise* the *Dutch*, and to *perplex his most Christian Majesty*, as much as lyes in their Power.

That his Highness doubts not, but it is absolutely necessary for the interest of his *most Christian Majesty*, and his *Royal Highness*, to use all endeavours to hinder the *meeting of the Parliament* by perswading his *Britannick Majesty*, that *his* Greatness; *his* Honour, and *his* Quiet, are no less concerned therein, than *theirs*; so that if his *most Christian Majesty* would write freely his thoughts thereupon to his *Br. Majesty* to forewarn him of the danger he apprehends from thence, and would withal think fit to make him the same generous offers of his *Purse*, to perswade him to dissolve the *present Parliament*, as he hath done to his *Highness* for the Election of another, perhaps he would succeed therein by the Assistance we would give him here.

As for another Parliament, it would be easie enough to get such an

one

one as we wish for, the constitutions of our Parliaments being of such a nature, that as there is nothing to be hoped for by the King, from an *old* one, so there is nothing to be feared from a *new* one, because such an one at their first meeting must needs assist his Majesty, so far as to *inable* him to acknowledge his Obligations both to his *most Christian Majesty* and to all the World.

Now, although there is nothing in the world more true, or plainer than this, some, nevertheless carried on, either by their particular Interest, or by their meer Malice, and the hatred they have conceived against those they have so far offended, as to *despair* of their pardon, are resolved rather to sacrifice the Honour of their King, and his Kingdom, than to shew him the danger he is running into, and the means to avoyd it, lest they themselves should *fall into the hands* of those that have long taken notice of their Baseness,

However, his Royal Highness will endeavour by his care and good Offices to entertain a very *good understanding* with the King, his Brother, as he hath alwayes done, and lately, with so much success, that methinks, he endears himself more and more every day.

For *Monsieur Rouvigny*, his Highness hath nothing to say against him: As he seems to understand the *Interest* of his *Master*, and to follow it with great observancy, he cannot by consequence thwart *Ours*: when we shall have any thing material to ask or to propose to you, you shall know it, and we will trust to the *Promises* of your help. I desire you from *my Master*, to deal with us with the same *freedom* and *confidence*, and be assured, that notwithstanding all the Rogueries and Follies of some People here and there, you will find us always just, and *Religiously* faithful.

From Mr. Coleman, *to the* French *King's Confessor, without Date, but noted by him to have been written in answer to a Letter of* 25 Sept. 1674.

His Royal Highness has received the Letter that you sent him by Sir *William Throckmorton*, which he has answered *Lect. pro Rege.* to you *himself*; and besides, he hath commanded me to testifie to you, the great esteem he hath for the Friendship of his *Most Christian Majesty*, and for *yours*, and to assure you that he will not fail to cultivate it with all his power; and that preferring the sincere faith of a *Christian*, and the word of a *Man of Honour*, before all *Subsidies*, and even all the *advantages* of the *World*, he gives you them both,

both, as a pledg of the ardent desire he has to continue always [illegible] Alliance with *his most Christian Majesty*, and to entertain also [illegible] mate Correspondence with *you*.

For the first point of your letter, his *Royal Highness* has commanded me to tell you, that he will govern himself according to *your advice* and treat of nothing concerning the *Catholick Religion* with *Monsieur Rouvigny*, nor with any other person than your self, but that he will communicate to you all things he shall find necessary for the good of *the Catholicks*, and shall be very well pleased to receive Advices from you thereupon.

For the rest, his *Royal Highness* does a little wonder, that he hears nothing from *Monsieur Rouvigny* touching the *second* point of your Letter, since you have written so positively, that he had order to confirm, and procure execution of what his most Christian Majesty proposed to him the second of *June last*, by your Mediation, and you by that of Sir *William Throckmorton*'s He (*His R. H.*) has omitted, till this time, to acquaint you with the small success that he has had, as expecting daily that *Mr Rouvigny* would impart to him the Commission of which you made mention to him in your Letter; but having heard nothing yet of that matter, and being obliged to go out of Town for 15 dayes or three Weeks, he thinks fit to send you back Sir *William Throckmorton*, to acquaint you with the progress of this business, and to pray you to inform your self of what has been able to hinder it.

His *most Christian Majesty*, made a very generous offer to his Royal Highness of the *assistance of his Purse*, to inable him to defend *them both* from the Evils that threatned them, and by good luck, his Royal Highness has labour'd with so much diligence and success, that the Dangers which they apprehended are a little put off; but *one* thing more is necessary for the perfect securing their affairs; and without making one step *more*, all that he has *already* done will signifie nothing. For that the Assistance of his *most Christian Majesty*, is no less necessary at present, than heretofore, to *subdue intirely* those, who being exasperated against his *most Christian Majesty*, as much as against his *Royal Highness*, and are angry with his Royal Highness, onely because he is so *unalterably* addicted to the Interest of his most Christian Majesty, will exercise their malice and their Rage with more *brutality* than ever, if they find occasion for it hereafter.

If

[illegible] sherefore, by your credit, obtain from his most Chri[illegible] [illegible]sty the accomplishment of the offer of his *Purse*, for [illegible] [illegible] reputation of his Royal Highness, in the opinion of his *Britannick Majesty* and for putting him in condition to resist the sharpest Batteries of the Adversaries of his most Christian Majesty and Royal Highness, to wit, the *possibility* they pretend to get money from the Parliament, and the *impossibility* of having any elsewhere, by which they often keep the mind of his *Britannick Majesty* in suspence, and wherein they place the hope they have to conquer him at last.

There will nothing more remain to be feared by his most Christian Majesty, or his Royal Highness, but his *Royal Highness* will be able to dissolve the Parliament with ease and afterwards, in recompence of the said *Assistance*, will perform on his part all that his most Chiristian Majesty shall *ask* of him, and will proceed with *Sincerity* upon the Word of a *Prince* (that no man can reproach him with the violation of) for the Interest of his most Christian Majesty.

A Letter from Mr. Coleman *to the* Internuncio *July* 24. 1674.

THe Affairs of the Duke are at this time as formerly, in a very uncertain condition. He hath many *Enemies*, and also some *Friends* amongst whom, he particularly esteemeth *you*, having a great Confidence in *your* Amity, of which he hopeth to find the good Effects when he shall have occasion to demand your *Assistance*, but truly, in the present Conjuncture, there is nothing more than to make you understand the *Estate* in which he is at present, and the state of the *Catholicks*, and to let you consider what your Friends can do for the comfort of the one and the other; the first is now very well, because of the *putting off the Parliament*, and of the uncertainty whether that party should take occasion to persecute him upon this Affair, or not; if he can deliver himself from this difficulty, he will *re-establish* himself better than ever, and shall be capable, not onely to manage his *proper* Affairs, as before, but also to testifie his acknowledgments to *those* who have been favourable to him in his misfortune; but if this affair is brought again upon the stage, he will be so inabled, that he will have all his Adversaries upon his back, which at present are civil enough to him, and do run a great risque to be ruined with his; all this dependeth on the King, who pretendeth to be effectually the *Duke*'s *Friend*, but does nevertheless hold an *intimate correspondence* with his *Enemies*, and too openly declareth himself sometimes, which makes us mistrust, that

he

he is perſwaded that his intereſt is altogether *oppoſite toours*. but we muſt not *deſpair*, God is *mighty*, & the innocence of this poor, miſerable——too evident, to permit him to be abandoned of all the world. If, by your means, you can gain the *Emperour* and the *Pope* to the Duke, for his aſſiſtance, or to contribute ſomething for the accomodating of the differences between his friends of *Spain* and *France*, (which cannot give him any *Succor*, becauſe of the infortunate *War*, in which they are ingag'd) you will merit much of God, and of all the friends of the poor *Catholicks*, who are reduced almoſt to deſpair, and are tormented every day by their *Enemies*, and will be conſtrained to fall every day under the burthen of their *miſeries*, if they are not upheld by ſome means: Their condition and that of the Duke are alike in *many things*, but do differ in *this*, that *they* have many Enemies, which may, every of them in particular, be againſt the Catholick cauſe for the Parliament, whereas the Duke, being onely engaged for the *others*, ſhall not be obliged to do any thing, at leaſt, that he ſhall not be condemned by the Parliament, all the others being of the ſame nature, ſo that none ſhall attacque him in the *laſt*, before this *firſt* is determined, becauſe, that if the Proceſs comes to be determined in his *favour*, *our Laws give him a great advantage againſt them which ſhall have the boldneſs to trouble him thereupon.* This is all that I can ſay at preſent of the affair of the Duke, and of the Catholicks, which I recommend to you with *all my heart*, aſſuring you, that ſince *Chriſtianiſm*, there hath not been any affair neither more to be *pitied*, or more worthy of all the cares and Zeal of good People, than this of which I now ſpeak to you. If you have the ſame Sentiment, you will take a great part in the Affairs of our Friends. and you will endeavour to apply all the moſt *proper Remedies* to make them *ſucceed.*

From the French *King's Confeſſor to Mr.* Coleman. Paris *Sep:* 15 1674.

Sir,

I *Am very much obliged to you for the Letter you were pleaſed to write me concerning my Sickneſs. It was long and troubleſome, and that which troubled me moſt during the long continuance of it, was, to find my ſelf unable to take care of that Affair you gave me a memorial of, with as much diligence as I could wiſh, But, being after all arrived here, I reſolved to ſend an Extract of the memorial, becauſe I was not able to carry it my ſelf, which has been very lucky, thanks be to God, as you will ſee by the Letter I write to his* Roy[all] Lec' pro Rege.

Highneſs. *Sir* William Throgmorton *goes expreſs with it. I pray acquaint his Highneſs, that this Knight has managed this Affair with all the Zeal, Fidelity, and Prudence poſſible, that his Highneſs may remember him upon occaſion, as a Perſon much addicted to him. For Mr.* Bernard, *that ſtays here, and whom you have recommended, I pray be not further concerned for him: The firſt occaſion that offers, he ſhall find the Eſteem I have for his Zeal and Wiſdom, and for the recommendation of his good Friends. I am in the mean while* Sir, your moſt humble and moſt obedient Servant

J. Ferrier.

From Mr. Coleman *to the Pope's* Internuncio. *Aug.* 21. 74.

Lec. pro Rege. YOU expect that the Duke ſhould let you know what your Friends can do for his Service; I told you the laſt Week my Opinion concerning the Eſtate of the Pope, in caſe the Proceſs of the Parliament be judged to his diſadvantage. And I have likewiſe told you what Opinion all the World hath as to that matter, that is to ſay, that it was abſolutely loſt.

But, for my part, not being of ſo timorous a nature as others, I do not believe ſo, but am of opinion, that it is not impoſſible to overcome our Adverſaries, in ſpight of all the confidence they have of Succeſs. But the Victory which I hope for is, to be able to prevent the Buſineſs coming before the Parliament, that it be not begun at all, rather than to gain the point, if it ſhall be brought upon the ſtage. For the fury of the Perſecutors is ſuch, that they will make uſe of all means imaginable, as well Evil as juſt, to gain their point. And I have too much reaſon too ſuſpect the Integrity of our Judges in that Affair, for I plainly perceive, they naturally incline to the ſide of our adverſaries, And I dare put no confidence in the Aſſiſtance of the King, after ſo many Demonſtrations as he hath given us of his weakneſs, as to that matter. And it is from theſe three Cauſes; that is to ſay, the Fierceneſs of our Adverſaries, the Injuſtice of our Judges, and the Weakneſs of the King, that we are to expect ſuitable Effects. So that we ſhall have very little hopes of ſucceſs, having ſo many Difficulties to contend with, in caſe the Parliament ſhould meet. Wherefore it will be neceſſary to provide ſome ſupport among his friends of your Acquaintance, if his Affairs ſhould be too far puſht to ſuffer him to be in quiet here. All thoſe who have had any Correſpondency with him are at preſent in great ſuſpence, and in pain to know what

what ſucceſs the buſineſs above mentioned is like to have. If the Duke ſucceeds in what he pretends to, they will be more fix'd to him than ever; if he fails, all his Creditors fall upon him in a moment, and he and his Catholick Aſſociates will be abſolutely ruin'd, for it is he alone upon whom all the reſt do intirely depend: So that it is for him and his Affairs, that all our friends ought to imploy their care to keep him up, that he may ſubſiſt. We have none with us that regard the merit, but the ſucceſs of things. So that if the Duke can happily diſingage himſelf of thoſe difficulties wherewith he is now incumbred, all the World will eſteem him an able man, and all People will intruſt him in their affairs more willingly than they have done formerly. And the King himſelf; who hath more influence on the *Eaſt India* Company, than all the reſt, will not only re-eſtabliſh him in the imployment he had before, but will put the *Management* of all his trade into his hands. By which means, he will have opportunity to enrich himſelf, and all his Catholick Aſſociates, with all their Correſpondents. So that 'tis of great conſequence, (that thoſe who owe him the *Sums* of) the Emperour and the Pope aſſiſt the Duke with a little *Sum* of money, to put him in a condition to re-eſtabliſh himſelf in the management of the King's Affairs, and to endeavour to compoſe the differences between his two friends of *Spain* and *France*; So that they may be in a condition to ſupport him in his juſt and worthy deſign, to begin and eſtabliſh a new Traffick very advantagious to the whole World, and particularly the Kingdom of *England*, which, at preſent, is unhappily divided, for want of being employed as it ought to be, and as it will be in little time after it ſhall have taſted the ſweetneſs of that Profit which it ſhall find by the managery of the Duke and his Aſſociates, being aſſiſted by his friends and yours, and principally by the Church. We have in agitation great deſigns, worthy the conſideration of your friends, and to be ſupported with all their Power, wherein we have no doubt but to ſucceed, and, it may be to the utter ruine of the Proteſtant party, if you join with us in good Earneſt, and cordially ſecond our Enterpriſes. The Affair is too long to give you all the Particulars of, but without doubt, you will underſtand much of it by the little which you find here.

September 4. 1674.

Jo. Nicholas,

AT preſent (Sir) We are returned again to *London*, where we ſhall be, as I hope, leſs embarraſſed than at *Windſor*, and by conſequence, ſhall have more leiſure to entertain our Correſpondents for the future, than we have had before. Since our return I have received your Letters of the one and twentieth of *Auguſt*, and fourth of *September*, and three others from our friend, through whoſe hands you ſent me yours. I wonder whence it comes that they have loſt their way thus, but I conceive that he directed them to his Correſpondent here, inſtead of addreſſing them immediately to me, or to Mr. *Jerome Beteman*; I will advertiſe him of it this day, the better to ſettle our Correſpondence for the future; 'tis true, that I did not write till this preſent as I intended, fearing leſt you ſhould have forgotten what I ſaid thereupon, when I was at your Houſe, but being delivered from that fear, I will not fail hereafter to treat you with that liberty and freedom you have permitted me to uſe towards you, having no other Deſign, than to obey you as I ought, being

You will wonder, without doubt at the freedom I take in this Letter, and at my Confidence, and, perhaps, will eſteem it as a mark of my weakneſs, judging thereby, that I accuſtom my ſelf to treat others in the like manner, and to open my mind, without diſtinction to all who make profeſſion to me of their Friendſhip and Sincerity. But, Sir, I deſire you not to believe me guilty of ſo great Lightneſs and Folly, if I ſhall let you know my moſt ſecret Thoughts. And firſt, to anſwer the Queſtion in your Letters, touching the Concerns of the Catholicks before the Parliament; *viz. Whether they will come in Debate again in the Month of* I aſſure you, there is none but my ſelf, either Friend or enemy of the Duke's, who doth not believe certainly, that that Buſineſs will be begun again at the time aforeſaid, and that it will terminate to the utmoſt prejudice of the Duke, and of the Catholicks. For my ſelf, I am alone of the opinion, that it will not then be taken up; at leaſt, I will do my utmoſt to prevent it; although I know well that the *Spaniſh* Miniſter, and all thoſe who are for the Intereſt of *Spain*, and the Confederates (whereof ſome notwithſtanding are very good Friends to the Catholicks) will do all they can to prevail with the King to purſue the ſaid Buſineſs, preferring

ring their Malice and Enmity againſt *France*, (which will, as they believe, be overwhelmed thereby) before their Love to the Duke and the Catholicks, who will certainly by that means be in great danger to be quite ruined. As for my ſelf, I am neither tied to the Intereſt of *Spain* nor *France*, but intirely to that of the Pope and the Catholicks; but pardon me, if I tell you freely, that I believe that the whole proceeding of *Spain* in this Conteſt with *France*, is viſibly to the great prejudice, as well of the Pope and the Catholicks, as his own Intereſt, and that He hath been long deceived by his Miniſters and Aſſociates, who have expoſed him, during this whole Affaire, to vaſt Expences, and have brought all the burden upon him, and in the end will quit him in his extremity, if he doth not take heed betimes. All his Friends on this ſide have foreſeen a good while what is faln out of late, and have been much afflicted to ſee two Gentlemen, of equal Merit, of the ſame parentage, and of the ſame Intereſt, ſo tranſported one againſt the other, as to expoſe themſelves to the deriſion of their Neighbours, who have alwayes been, and who are at preſent inwardly (what ſhew ſoever they make in appearance) Enemies to both. In ſhort,, I believe that it is not prudence in *Spain* to ſuffer it ſelf to be thus governed by the paſſion of its Miniſters, to its own Damage, and the ruine of its beſt Friends, rather that to agree with *France*, becauſe it hath been perfidious, altho *Spain* may have all the Aſſurances imaginable, that *France* will act honeſtly for the future, like a good Neighbour, a kind Relation, and a moſt faithful Friend, The Duke's principal Deſign is, to terminate this difference by the Interpoſition of the Pope and by that means to eſtabliſh himſelf in the poſſeſſion of his Eſtate, through their Aſſiſtance, and to turn all their Cares, (which at preſent are employ'd to deſtroy each other) for the Eaſe of the Pope's friends, and particularly for the Catholicks of the Church, againſt their great Enemies. If you pleaſe to conſider the Affair as it is, you will find that the Pope never had an occaſion ſo favourable as at this Hour, to inrich thoſe of his Family, and to augment the number of his friends, and if he lets it ſlip, he will never find the like: ſo that if ever they propoſe to make uſe of the treaſure of the Church, 'tis now they ought to do it, for they can demand nothing that the Duke will not be capable to do for the Pope's Friends; and the Emperour, being aſſiſted, as I ſaid: On the other ſide, without their Aid, He will run great hazard of being loſt, both himſelf and his Aſſociates. This is all I can ſay.

From

From Mr, Coleman *to the Pope's* Internuncio. *September* 11. 1674.

SIR,

I Have received yours of the 7th. Inſtant, by which you do me the Honour to deſire the continuance of News from us, in which I will willingly obey you, nothing being more agreeable to me than to ſerve you.

On *Tueſday* was ſevennight our Commiſſioners and thoſe of *Holland* (who are to adjuſt the commerce of both Nations to the *Eaſt-Indies*) entered upon that affair.

Friday laſt the Privy Council met again (the King preſent) being the firſt time ſince his Majeſty adjourned them at *Hampton-Court*, about five or ſix Weeks ago) and for the future they will meet regularly, as heretofore.

The third Son the Dutcheſs of *Cleaveland*, known hitherto by the name of my Lord *George Fitz Roy*, hath been lately made Earl of *Northumberland*, Viſcount of *Falmouth*, and Baron of *Pomfret*. *Don Carlos*, another of the King's Natural Sons, will be created Earl of *Plymouth*, but his Letters Patents are not yet ſigned.

An *Iriſh* man, named *Cuſſack*, in a ſmall Veſſel of 13 men, had the boldneſs (the laſt week) to take a *Scotch* Ship in our River, near *Sheerneſs*, and got off, but the Yacht called the *Merlyn* purſuing the ſaid *Cuſſack*, and tooke him, ſo that he and his thirteen men are to be treated as Pirates.

Saturday laſt, Sir *Jonathan Atkins*, Governour of *Barbadoes*, ſailed from *Portſmouth* to take poſſeſſion of his charge. His Majeſty will go to *New Market* about the end of this Month, to divert himſelf with Hunting, Horſe races, and the other divertiſements of the Place and Seaſon.

Yeſterday the Earl of *Arlington* took poſſeſſion of his Charge of Lord Chamberlain of his Majeſties Houſhold, his Majeſty having delivered him the Staff, and this day he hath complemented their Royal Highneſſes, and hath received the Viſits and Congratulations of all his Relations, and Grandees of the Court.

Sir *Joſeph Williamſon* ſucceeds him in the Charge of Secretary of State, for which he hath taken the ordinary Oath, and hath this day taken his place in Council.

As for the Proceſs of you Friend, for which I was in great apprehenſion when I writ to you on the one and twentieth of the laſt Month,

it

it is at preſent (as I hope) in a better condition than formerly; and although his Adverſaries proſecute him with as much vigour, and more confidence than ever; nevertheleſs, I do not doubt but the Lawyers of Mr. ---- will find out ſome means to avert the danger for the preſent, in deferring it at leaſt for ſome Months; and then it's to be hoped, that his Enemies will begin to hear reaſon; and that thoſe who had a Deſign to make uſe of this ill Conjuncture to ſatisfie their malice, under the ſpecious pretext of obtaining their pretended Debts, and ſecuring their Trade, will ſee, perhaps, that it is not ſo eaſie to maintain a Cheat, and ruine (by their tricks) honeſt people, ſupported by Juſtice and Innocence, as they imagined, after having got that point.

Your Friends, the *Emperonr* and the *Pope*, will have a fair occaſion of giving marks of their Friendſhip to Mr. --- by joyning their credit and Intereſt to his, to make the great deſign (which he hath ſo long meditated, ſucceed, to undermine the Intrigues of that Company of Merchants, who trade for the *Parliament* and the *Religion*, and to Eſtabliſh that of the aſſociated *Catholicks* in every place, which may be done (without any great trouble) if the *Emperour* and the *Pope* will grant him their aſſiſtance, and that *Spain* will not too obſtinately oppoſe him; as he hath hitherto done, to his own prejudice; of which I freely told you my Opinion in my laſt, of the Third Inſtant. A little time will now let us ſee the Trade of all Affairs of this nature more clearly than at preſent; In the mean time, you ſee the Confidence and Liberty I uſe with you, *&c.*

From Mr. Coleman *to the* Internuncio, October 23. 1674.

Lec. pro Rege. YOU agree with me, that Money is the onely means of bringing the King into the Duke's Intereſt, and of diſingaging him from the Parliament, and you muſt alſo agree with me, that nothing can more promote the Intereſt of the Catholick Party, which is the principal Object of the Duke's Care and Affection, and of the Hatred of the Parliament, and which muſt hope or fear, according as the one or the other of them increaſe in Power.

Now the power will be unalterably eſtabliſhed in the Duke. if the the King were reſolved to give him his Aſſiſtance in one or two things, ſo that if Money can prevail with him to act in the Duke's favour, d to abondon the Parliament, the Carholicks will find themſelves

at

at great eaſe about it. And if that be the only way to gain the King that without him the Duke will be in great danger of being ruin'd, and all the Catholicks with him, it imports much to the Duke's friends, and to the Catholicks, that nothing be omitted for the ſecuring to them aſſiſtance of money, as above mentioned. But how ſhall one get it? There's the difficulty. For my part, I do not doubt (notwithſtanding the Diſcourſe which We had together, when I had the honour to ſpeak with you upon this ſubject, and when we proceeded upon other Propoſitions than now we do) but that the Pope may do it effectually, if he think fit to employ his whole Power, becauſe money, which is intirely at his command, is more than ſufficient to make the pertenſions of the Duke and the Cotholicks ſucceed; beſides that, the Pope hath many other means to attain the favour of Money.

But before it be endeavoured to perſwade the Pope to ingage himſelf in things of this nature, he muſt firſt be made to underſtand, that the aſſiſtance which he ſhall give the Duke ſhall be hindred from becoming ineffectual to the Catholicks, either by the lightneſs of the King, or by any other means, and that it ſhall be ſo ordered, as to produce infallibly (or at leaſt, very probably) the Effects which we wiſh for from it.

As for the firſt, nothing in the world is more certain, than that the King has a good inclination towards the Duke and the Catholicks, and would joyn himſelf willingly, and inſeparably to their Intereſts, if he did not apprehend ſome danger from ſuch a Union, which, however, he would not have any cauſe to feare, if he found their intereſt, and conſequently their Power, ſo far advanced above that of their Adverſaries, that they ſhould neither have the power nor the Boldneſs to conteſt any thing with them, or with him, upon any matter that concerned them, which he could ſee in a very little time, if we could perſwade him to treat roundly with Sir *William Throckmorton*, and to do two or three things beſides, which would neceſſarily follow the firſt, and which he could not eaſily avoid doing; and I am certain Mony could not fail of perſwading him to it, for there is nothing it cannot make him do, though it were as much to his prejudice, as this we endeavour to perſwade him to, will be to his Advantage.

To convince you that the Duke and his Friends would have ſo much the Advantage in their Trade over their Competitors, in caſe they might be aſſiſted by Money, that there would be nothing

for the King to apprehend, either of immediate loſs, or Collateral damage, in preſent or to come; it will be enough that you conſider the infinite augmentation of Credit which they have already gain'd by the bare ſuſpending of their *Suit* for a little time onely; for if that has been capable of advancing their Intereſt to ſuch a degree, conſider (I beſeech you) how one definitive ſentence in their favour, muſt needs eſtabliſh both their Reputation and real Power; It would do it to that degree, that, I dare ſay, not one man of thoſe who now balance betwixt them and their Adverſaries, or that ſeem to be even of their enemies party, believing the Advantage of the *Suit* on their ſide, would dare to croſs or contradict them in any matter whatſoever, in caſe that this point were abſolutely determined in their favour, and even thoſe who have moſt obſtinately oppoſed their Intereſts, would then be as earneſt to ſerve them, and to joyn with them, ſo that their Adverſaries would be wholly ruin'd, and all the Buſineſs be managed intirely by the Duke and his Friends, without any oppoſition: in ſuch ſort, that it will not be in the King's power to eſtabliſh another *Company*, although he ſhould be ſo capricious as to deſire it, which he will never do, becauſe he is naturally inclin'd to favour thoſe, when he may do it without hazard, and he has nothing to apprehend upon this occaſion, ſince he will find his Intereſt better eſtabliſhed by this means, and with more ſecurity and quiet, than ever it has been hitherto.

For my part, that which I have ſaid ſeems ſo evident to me, that nothing leſs than a Miracle can give me greater aſſurance, that the King will never oppoſe the deſigns of the Duke and his Friends, provided he has once done in their favour what they deſire of him, becauſe he will find his Account in it very advantagiouſly, as he will quickly perceive, when he has made tryal of the ſucceſs, although he does not yet ſee it, & therefore it is neceſſary we ſhould be aſſiſted with money, to open the Eyes of the King, or to carry him blindly to his own Advantage, which money will eaſily do, having ſuch an abſolute power over him, that he cannot reſiſt it in any thing; and beſides that, the thing which we ask is ſo reaſonable, ſo honourable, and ſo much for his Intereſt, which he will ſee clearly, when he comes to conſider his own Affairs, as he ought, and ſo agreeable to his Inclination, that we want nothing but the aſſiſtance of a ſum of money, that may have influence enough upon him, to make him reflect upon what concerns

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY 1879 BRADSHAW COLL. LIBRARY

him moſt, particularly, to obtain all that we can deſire of him.

As for the Proceſs, we have no great reaſon to apprehend the ſucceſs of it, if money may there give it's honourable Teſtimony; for we are not only aſſured of Juſtice from thoſe Judges who are to determine it, but even of as much Favour as they can reaſonably ſhew us: for ſeeing they have been ſo kind as to defer the ſentence for ſo many months, in favour of the Duke and his Friends, that they might have occaſion to ſtrengthen their party, when the ordinary Rule and method of the Law, oblidged them to proceed forthwith to a determination of the diſpute, which the adverſe Party preſſed with all their power, knowing well, that the Duke and his Friends, were not at all prepar'd to ſupport their Right as was requiſite. The Judges I ſay, being ſo favourable to them as to give them time for the clearing of ſome points which might change the appearance of the cauſe, ſo that inſtead of looſing it as they would certainly have done, without this Explanation; they cannot now fail of Succeſs in it, according to the ſtricteſt Rule of Juſtice, nor need they fear any oppreſſion of Injuſtice after ſuch proofs of Kindneſs, ſo that the Duke and his Friends aſſiſted by the Teſtimony of mony, which may give ſo much evidence to this Affair, cannot fail of a deciſion in their Favour, by the aforeſaid Judges.

*M*oreover, I perſwade my ſelf, the Pope will never want Teſtimonies on the Duke's part, either of his Will or power, to go through what he undertakes, if the King does not hinder him; for as to the former, he has given ſuch proofs of his Integrity, and *R*eſolution to continue it unalterably in the greateſt Extremities, that no body can be ſo unjuſt as to ſuſpect him capable of any unworthy Action.

And as to his power, there are ſo many Inſtances to be given in other perſons, who have been leſs concern'd and leſs able than himſelf, and yet have been ſo ſucceſsful in the ſame Attempts, that there is no reaſon in this Caſe to doubt of it. Remember (I beſeech you) what happened at—in the year----and compare the perſons Enterprizes, and all other Circumſtances of thoſe times, with theſe, and then tell me (if you pleaſe) why one may not expect as good an effect now, as then; but if money alone be able to produce Effects of this kind in the preſent Conjuncture of Affairs, you will doubtleſs, agree with me, that it is requiſite to employ it on this Occaſion, if ever we pretend to uſe it on any. And indeed, there is no Appearance that ſo much Labour and Care have been uſed for ſo long time to encreaſe the

Power

Power of the Church, to render it unuſeful for ever.

As to the Journey of (Mr. *Gabriel*) the Internuncio, ſeeing he is fond of it, I am content, becauſe he will have better opportunity of promoting the Duke's Intereſt with the Pope and Emperour at *Rome*, than elſewhere; for my part, I ſhould not correſpond with his Succeſſor, without Monſieur *Gabriel*'s Expreſs Order, or ſome of his Friends, becauſe I may continue the Negotiation of our Affair immediately with him at *Rome*, as well as by any other way, which would not advance, but rather retard the Buſineſs. I ſhould think my ſelf very happy, if I might ſee him in his paſſage to---- but if that may not be, I ſhould be glad to get leave of my Maſter to meet him at --- to kiſs his hands, and to give him the greateſt aſſurances of my being intirely his, as I profeſs to be,

SIR,

As to what you ſay of the Pope's Obligations to aſſiſt other Friends, who are under greater Preſſures, I anſwer, That perhaps the Affairs of the King of France *may be more preſſing than theirs, and alſo than thoſe of the Duke, for the Duke may poſſibly be able to overcom all his Difficulties without any aſſiſtance from abroad, though not without much trouble and hazard, but I ſhould think the beſt, and honeſt way of aſſiſting the King of* France *effectually, would be for the Pope to joyn with the Duke, and to endeavour, with their Credit with* Spain: *and other Catholick Princes, to unite themſelves in a Company, and to admit the King of* France *into it, to the end that being joyned in the ſame Company, they might have but one common Intereſt, and they would be able to Govern the whole Traffick at their Pleaſure, and the Proteſtants and all other Nations would be obliged to give them what they would ask for all they ſhould expect, and to ſell them their Merchandizes at their own price; becauſe there would be no other Merchants of whom they could buy, or to whom they could ſell, but to thoſe of this Company, which would bring them in an incredible Advantage, and there is nothing more eaſie than to eſtabliſh this Company, if the Pope would contribute his Aſſiſtance, as aloveſaid.*

From Mr. Coleman *to the* Internuntio.

Windſor Auguſt 30. 1675.

IT is true, Sir, that the Pope hath given us a clear and evident mark of his affection toward the Catholicks of *England*; but the Internuntio hath teſtified no leſs in doing Juſtice to the Merits of Cardinal *Norfolk*, which he mentioned in his Letter of the 6th

of *July*. Since we have reaſon to atribute his ſucceſs to the (juſt or favourable) character that the Internuntio hath given of him, I do not at all apprehend that the Internuntio repented himſelf of the good offices that he hath done him, but that he will find them recompenced by the ſatisfaction which he will receive in his friendſhip.

As for (Monſieur *Clement*) the Duke, I believe that he hath already found the effects of your prayers; and that he hath almoſt ſurmounted all the difficulties which have oppoſed his Eſtabliſhment: The face of his Affairs are well changed; for we now paſſionately wiſh to ſee the coming on of the Parliament which we ſo much feared before: And while it was held doubtful whether it ought to meet or no, we employed all our power to bring it on; which point we have gained but within theſe few days. And for my part, I no ways doubt but that we ſhall receive as much good by it, as we apprehended ill, provided that the Duke fail not in the execution of the good Reſolutions which he hath taken. There is but one thing to be feared (whereof I have a very great apprehenſion) that can hinder the ſucceſs of our Deſigns; which is a Diviſion amongſt the Catholicks themſelves, which hath already broke out at *Paris* amongſt ſome Catholicks of *England*, touching ſome difference of Opinions in their Debates.

I find that ſome of them have ſent their Complaints to *Rome*, to have their Antagoniſt condemned: I have an intimate Acquaintance with the Perſon complained of, and I dare affirm he hath made twice as many Catholicks in *England*, of thoſe which were none before, as any other perſon of his Quality; and that he is as well inclined towards the Pope and his whole Family, as the beſt of his accuſers: And I aſſure you, he hath many friends here of the firſt rank of Catholicks, who would not engage in his affairs, if they did not believe that he marched ſteadily towards the common end. Although he affecteth ſometimes to expreſs himſelf ſomewhat different from ſome of his Brothers. As for me, I believe there is too much paſſion on both ſides; and if it ſhall fall out that his enemies prevail againſt him, and procure his Condemnation at *Rome*, I am afraid that divers others will take occaſion from thence to fall upon many Catholicks before the Parliament, deſiring his friendſhip about ſome Extravagant propoſitions concerning the Authority of the Pope, to which the other Catholicks cannot ſubmit; which will give occaſion to the

Par-

Parliament to accord their conjunction to those who require it, upon the Conditions beforementioned; that is, Conditions prejudicial to the Authority of the Pope, by the hatred which they bear to all the Religion of the Catholicks, because they may persecute the rest of them with more appearance of Justice and ruine the one half of them more easily than the whole body at once. So that it seemeth to me, that although the Religion should be much more severely dealt with, by reason of their Complaint, than now it is, it would be very improper in the present Conjuncture of our Affairs, to make any division betwixt the Catholicks of *England*, upon any occasion whatsoever.

But for my part, I do not perceive any prejudice that can befal the Religion from any of those things, against which some persons seem to be so furiously enraged; because to my apprehension, there is nothing contained in them, but what hath heretofore been maintained by men of Worth and Honesty, with the general approbation of the whole World; and particularly by D. *Elizalde* a *Spaniard*, in his Book Intituled, *De forma veræ Religionis quærendæ & inveniendæ.*

If you do not understand the Subject of this Letter, our Friend, from whose Hand you shall receive it, will inform you, and let you know the persons, and all the matters which have passed betwixt them; and when you shall be fully possessed of them, and shall possibly come to be of my opinion, (that it is necessary to prevent all differences betwixt the Catholicks of *England* in this present Conjuncture) I hope you will contribute your utmost endeavour to prevent the Condemnation of *Rome*, in any thing that may occasion a Breach amongst the Catholicks of *England*. I very well know, that the Duke will hold himself much obliged by those, who shall concern themselves in the pacification of this disorder, from whence we dread so much mischief; And that the Emperour, and the Internuntio, cannot perform an Office more grateful to him, than to prevent the Pope or any of his Family to embark themselves in the Affair, which would raise some dispute amongst us.

I beg your pardon for the trouble I have given you upon this Subject, but knowing your goodness, and weighing the importance of the Affair, wherin I have taken the liberty to beg your assistance, I doubt not but you will pardon, *Sir*.

A Letter seiz'd at Mr. Coleman's *directed,* A Monsieur Monsieur le Point proche de *Charing-Cross* a *Londres*, pour fair tenier a Monsieur *James Clark.*

September 28, 1678. *Paris.*

I Had yours of the 12th instant, last night; our Posts these three last came in late: my friend being with the Crowd, it's impossible for me to reach him now, but last night he sent me the Friend I mentioned, to tell me that this Peace has broke all our measures at present here, so that to write to our Friend at present is useless, notwithstanding he had proposed all things in very good order, had the Courier brought Peace in his mouth, which stop'd his as to our last design; so that now they pretending here, the Peace being made, they have no need of us; so that by consequence they won't seek us, as they would if the Peace had been still opposed. But in a word, to put our *Tarffique* afoot, it's absolutely *necessary* that my *friend* come speedily over to you, and to converse with you and our other friend, because his measures are so well taken in *Italy*, that we can't miss to *establish* this Commodity better from those parts, than from any here at present, tho hereafter we may finde means and helps from hence too. But *it's most certain, now is the time, or never, to put things in order to establish it with you, for reasons which you may very well guess*; and whatever my friend or th'other friend in the crowd can *write*, will signifie nothing; So whatever we say by Letter will be always imperfect, and want *explanation*; so that to clear all doubts, and for better Secrecy too, it's absolutely necessary that our friend comes to you, and to that intent *in terms as obscure as you please.* It's necessary that our friend with you desires our friend at the Crowd here to give liberty to my friend with him, to come over to convene with him; for he says himself, it's you must put him the way to make the measures he has taken in *Italy* to take effect; for he knows what power he hath here, but he knows not of what Constitution you are in: Besides, the Propositions he makes for *Portership* can't be done at this distance, but in such terms, as the meanest face here you have will easily tell what he means, and so our Trade quite spoilt; so if our friend with you signifie the least desire he has to have our friend come over, he'le easily clear all difficulties, and discover to you the dispositions of both Countreys to *our purpose*, and I no ways doubt but you'l have entire satisfaction; however, there will be no harm to hear what

what he can ſay, and to ſee the plan that's made for this kind of Traffique. I expect your anſwer as to this particular, and ſhall ever be as you would have me to be.

This Letter is indorſt with Mr. *Coleman's* hand thus; *Anſwered 7ber. 26. but imperfectly, and with a promiſe of a clearer and fuller Anſwer by the next poſt.*

[Note, this dark ſuſpicious Letter was received but a very few days before the Plot was diſcovered to his Majeſties Privy-Council, and Mr. *Coleman* thereupon Committed.]

Among Mr. Coleman's *Papers is one of his own hand-writing, tituled on the back thus;* King's Power to command his own Subjects ſervice againſt all Acts of Parliament.

That which is written within, ſeems to be but an imperfect beginning of an Argument to prove this Power of commanding Subjects ſervice againſt all Acts of Parliament: *The words are theſe;* Any Subject is by his natural Legiance bound to obey and ſerve his Soveraign &c. It is Enacted by the Parliament of the 23d *Hen.* 6. that no man ſhould ſerve the King as Sheriff of any County above one year; and that, notwithſtanding any Clauſe of *Non obſtante* to the contrary, that is to ſay, notwithſtanding that the King ſhould expreſsly diſpenſe with the ſaid Statute: Howbeit it is agreed in 2. *H.* 7. that againſt the expreſs purview of that Act, the King may by a ſpecial *Non obſtante* diſpence with that Act; for that the Act could not barr the King of the ſervice of his Subjects, which the Law of Nature did give unto him.

Lord Cooke *7th Report*, Calvin's *Caſe*, *fol.* 14.

The next following Letters were written to Mr. *Coleman* by the ſaid Internuntio, (or Nuncio, as he ſtiles himſelf) part from *Bruſſelles*, and the reſt from *Rome*; whither he removed during the Correſpondence. They were written Originally in *French*, Tranſlated by ſeveral Members of Parliament.

Bruxelies the 14th of *Auguſt*, 1674. Tranſlated by *Tho. Thinn* Eſq:

SIR,

YOur Letter of the 24th of *July*, which I received ſome days ſince from the perſon to whom you had Addreſt it, delivered me from the great uneaſineſs I was in, by not having heard from you in ſo long a time. I was very glad you confirmed what I received from another hand, the good condition in which the Dukes Affairs ſtood in relation to the Proceſs he had with the Parliament, wherein I hope

he will have an entire Victory. Oblige mein acquainting me as often as poſſible you can, how that matter proceeds; and particularly, whether it will come quickly to a hearing as thoſe of his ſide intended, or whether it is like to be put off to a longer time; the Emperor is intirely his, and the Inter-nuntio has this week received Letters from him, wherein he commands him to aſſure the Duke of the paſſionate zeal he has for his Service, and thoſe of the Catholicks. I pray you acquaint the Duke with it, and aſſure him that the Inter-Nuntio has alſo the ſame inclinations, as he will make appear on all occaſions that ſhall preſent themſelves; but it muſt be the Duke himſelf muſt direct in what we may contribute to his Service. The Pope alſo will give his aſſiſtance in ſuch things as are proper for him to appear in. I beg of you to communicate your News to me as often as you can, by ſuch ways as you ſhall judge moſt convenient, and am in the mean time, without reſerve,

SIR,

Your moſt Humble and moſt Obedient Servant,

ALBANY.

From Bruſſels, September 28. 1674. Tranſlated by *Sir Humphry Winch.*

SIR,

I Have received this Week two of your Letters, dated the fourth and the ſeventh of this month, by which I underſtand in what condition the Dukes Proceſs is. I was raviſhed to find by the laſt, that the Tryal will be put off to another time, againſt the general opinion. Whithout doubt this will extreamly rejoyce the Pope and the Emperor, whereof the firſt imployeth all his power to accommodate the differences between *Spain* and *France*; and I doubt not, but the conſideration of contributing by this means, to the advantage of the Duke and of the Catholicks, will further incite him to ſollicite this affair, upon the relation which the Nuncio will make to the Pope of the Importance of its ſucceſs, for the Catholiques of *England.*

As for the Emperor, he is ſo zealous for the Dukes ſervice, that I am aſſured he will omit nothing on his ſide to facilitate whatever he ſhall find tend to the good iſſue of this Affair whereof I will write to him particularly. Continue only to impart to me all the light that may ſerve to direct what is to be treated on; I hope the next winter will give opportunity for more happy Negotiations, even to the me-

di-

diation of the Pope, who hitherto hath not been able to act at all, as you have known from other parts. I am, without reserve, &c.

Your most humble &c.

ALBANY.

October 19. 1674.

Translated by Sir *Humphry Winch.*

SIR,

I Agree with you, that the only means to win the King to the Duke's Interest, and to take him off intirely from the Friendship of the Parliament, would be money, for the Reasons you alledge in your last Letter of the 2d. instant, which I have just now received; but the means necessary to continue it are so excessive, that even according to your own opinion, and the discourse we had when you was here, what the Pope could contribute would be nothing in comparison of what is needed: and in the obligation he hath also to assist other Friends who are in greater straits. I likewise doubt whether the Pope would resolve upon what you propound, considering the little stress can be laid upon the Kings will, it being to be feared, that all imployed that way would soon be lost, without any advantage to the Duke or his Associates, which we have reason to fear from his ordinary manner of proceeding. It would therefore be necessary in my opinion to have at least some probable assurances that we might imploy for the advantage of the Catholicks, and what otherwise we are obliged frugally to manage for them in other parts, before the Proposition be made to the Pope, which is not to be undertaken in so general and obscure Terms as you propound it. For what remains, the Nuntio is upon the point of going to *Rome*, having already leave to return. The Negotiation of the business you propound, will belong to his Successor; bnt he will retain the same passion which he had for the Dukes Service, as well at the Emperors Court, as at the Popes, if he shall have any part in the Affairs of *England*. He will not fail to inform you more particularly of his departure. I pray assure the Duke of what I have told you, and am without reserve,

SIR,

Tonr most Humble and most Obedient Servant

ALBANY.

October 30. 1674.

Tranſlated by Sir *Gilbert Talbot.*

SIR,

ACcording as I ſent you word by my laſt, I am upon the point of parting from hence, having already received the leave that I waited for. I am ſorry to part from a place, where I might have been inſtrumental to the Service of the Duke; and have made it appear to him what a particular zeal I have for all things that relate to him. Howſoever, I will not fail to contribute thereunto all that lyeth in my power, in the place where I am going.

I leave here behind me a friend of mine, who will have the care of my affairs; to whom nevertheleſs I have communicated nothing of the Commerce which is betwixt us: Neither will I acquaint therewith the Friend that is to come, till at leaſt I underſtand firſt from you, that you judge it convenient.

If you have any thing to ſend to me, in order to the Duke's Service, you may make uſe of the ſame hand which you employed in their addreſs hither to me, and he may ſend them to *Rome*, under the cover of his Brothers.

I pray you, deliver the incloſed to Monſieur *Belair*; and I am, without reſerve, *SIR*,

Your moſt obedient Servant

ALBANY.

POSTSCRIPT.

I think it better, that you ſend the Letter for Monſieur *Belair* ſome other way. *Rome* 12 *January*, 1674.

Tranſlated by Sir *J. Knight*, part of this Letter not Decypherable.

SIR,

TIs certain, that the beſt Expedient to become Mother of the Kings will, and to ſever his kindneſs from the Parliament, is that of Money. And I doubt not but the Duke may thereby make himſelf abſolute over his thoughts, and to draw, by his Proceſs, and that of the Catholicks, thoſe advantages which you take notice of in your laſt Letter.

But if the Pope had the means to do as much as would be neceſſary in this matter, which is much beyond his power, for the reaſons I told you when I had the happineſs to ſee you, and of which I have adviſed you in many Letters; never can he be drawn reaſonably to do

it,

it, but upon more ſolid grounds, and more probable aſſurances touching the good of Religion and of the Catholicks, then what you intimate in the diſcourſes of your laſt Letter.

What you propoſe touching

you may there conſider it in the terms wherein at preſent are it would be for the Intereſt of the Duke to produce unto light an affair of this nature. That which I can with truth aſſure you, and whereof the Duke may be perſwaded is, that ſince the Pope and the Emperour have an affection, and moſt peculiar zeal for all that regards him.

As to my ſelf, I lay about with the one and with the other in the ſame ſhrine of zeal which I ſhall always retain for the Duke, and perhaps you ſhall ſhortly ſee ſome proofs thereof.

It hath been here ſaid that the King for ſome time hath wanted his health, let me know what there is in it.

And as to our Commerce, you may continue until farther order, to ſend me your Letters by the ſame way which hitherto you have done. I am, without reſerve.

SIR,

Yours, &c.

The Cypher which I left with 300, and which you may have from him, will ſerve to open what here you find.

February 16, 1675. Tranſlated by Sir *Gilb. Talbot*.

YOur laſt Letter of the 7th of *January*, (which I received from a Gentleman, ſent from her R. Highneſs the Dutcheſs of *York* to the Dutcheſs of *Modena*) hath afforded me very great comfort, from the favourable prognoſtick which you make of the Affairs of the Duke of *Yorke*, wherein you know how highly I concern my ſelf: without all doubt you have received the anſwer which I ſent you ſome time ſince, to the Letter delivered to me by the hand of your friend. And you have underſtood by that the incongruities, which render the execution of that affair impoſſible, which you propoſed to be Treated with the Pope and the Emperor, concerning Money, and I doubt not but the Duke and you both, will come to be of the ſame opinion with me, that it would prove an irrecoverable prejudice to his Highneſs, if that buſineſs ſhall be ſet on foot. I was not a little

ſurpriſed to hear, that my Lord *Arlington* was ſo deeply engaged in the concerns of the Parliament, that he ſhould have ſo little conſideration of preſerving his friendſhip for the King.

I expect with impatience the news from your Country, to know what the negotiation of your Miniſters in *Holland* will produce; and what the effect of Admiral *Tromps* Journey to *London*. I am in the mean time,

SIR,

Your moſt Humble and Obedient Servant,

ALBANY.

June 3, 1675. Tranſlated *November* 1. 78, by Sir *Ed. Dering*.

SIR,

YOu have without doubt already underſtood from the Publick News-books the buſineſs of the Cardinal of *Norfolk*, which will ſerve your as a moſt evident proof of the affection which the Pope doth bear unto the concerns of *England*; from whence you may draw a moſt aſſured conſequence, of what you may hope when the Affairs of the Duke ſhall need the aſſiſtance of *Rome*.

I am very glad to underſtand that his Affairs do not hitherto receive any prejudice by the Proceedings of the Parliament, and I ſhall be overjoyed to know the particular of his concerns, of which you gave me hope by your laſt, which was of the 7th of *April*, ſince which I have received none from you, I expect them with impatience, and ſo much the more, becauſe our friend, for ought I ſee, excuſeth himſelf from ſending me any news of the Duke, upon this reaſon, that you had given him hopes that you would inform me moſt particularly of all that paſſeth in this matter.

Oblige me therefore with the communication of your Letters, and believe that I am really,

SIR,

Your moſt Humble and moſt Obedient Servant,

ALBANY.

Rome, October 19 1675. Tranſlated *November* 1, 78. by Sir *Ed. Dering*.

SIR,

YOurs of the 30 of *Auguſt* came not to my hands till the laſt week, by the means of our common friend who liveth in this City, which I am obliged to tell you, that you may not think I have forgot my duty in delaying my Anſwer ſo long.

I

I am over-joyed to understand by the news you write me the good condition in which the Affairs of the Duke and the Catholicks are at present, and for what concerneth the matter of which I have been more particularly informed by your friend, I will not fail speedily to acquaint the Emperour, and it is he who is all powerful with the Pope, with the reasons why it is for the benefit of the Catholicks, to deter the execution of that censure, which might cause some divisions among them, and give occasion of advantage to the Parliament thereby. My advice hath been received very favourably, so that I am not only assured that they will delay for some long time the design of that business, but I hope also that the matter may possible end so, as the person whom you recommend, doth desire.

The consideration of the connexion which all this may have with the interests of the Duke, hath been the most prevaling motive to the persons with whom I have been obliged to treat in this affair, to perswade them to what you did desire, and you may know by that, the passion that there is in this place, to contribute to all things which they believe are for his service. I beseech you to assure him of the zeal with which I will always imploy my self therein. I am, without reserve,

SIR,

Your most Humble and Obedient Servant,

ALBANY.

From Brussels, September 7, 1674, Translated by Sir *Humphry Winch*

SIR,

YOurs of the 21. of last Month, which just now I received, hath given me much trouble, by the dangerous condition whereunto the Dukes Process is reduced. I wish I were able to contribute to his service by the means of my friends, and particularly of the Emperor and the Pope. But hitherto I see not wherein they can advantage him. The Pope endeavours, what, you observe, which would be the propereſt remedy for his Affair, but the Parties will not yet declare themselves upon the business. If you will explain your self what may be done on this side, in the present occurrences of Affairs, I doubt not but all that is possible will be done. I beg the communication of your news, and am, without reserve,

SIR,

Your most Humble and most Obedient Servant,

ALBANY.

The

The following Letters were written from France *to Mr.* Coleman *by Mr.* St. Germain, *in* French, *and Tranſlated, ſome by Order of the Privy-Council, and ſome by ſeveral Members of the Houſe of Commons.*

A Letter from St. Germain *to* Coleman.

Paris 11 *December*, 1675.

Extract. I Will tell you beſides, That the King of *France* does not ſeem yet reſolved to recall Monſieur *De Ruvigny* from the Trade where he has ingaged him; he perceives he does more harm than good; but other Conſiderations delay the Buſineſs. One of your Friends ſays, He will ſee if he can make things appear; but *Coleman* muſt well explain to me his End, and the Means he will make Uſe of. This Friend ſays beſides, that he has given the King's Confeſſor to underſtand, That the King of *France* ought not to do any thing with the King of *England*, but by the Duke of *York*; and he hath Promiſed and Engaged upon his Life to the King's Confeſſor to make all ſucceed, in caſe that way be made uſe of. Has he done well, and do you know this Friend? He will call himſelf hence-forward 41, for I ſee none of this Name in your Cyphers.

Left pro. Rege.

Tranſlated out of French *according to the Cypher, received from the Lords of the Committe appointed to examine* Coleman's *papers.*

A Letter from St Germain *to* Coleman.

Paris 15 *Decemb.* 1675.

I Cannot forbear to Write to you once more this Week, having two things to ſay to you, the one is, that I have ſeen Mr. *Sheldon*, who intends to go to Trade ſecretly in your parts. He will depart in 8, or 10 Days, but take no notice of it, leſt it be known from whence you had it. He would have had me carried him to ſee the King's Confeſſor, whoſe Favour he endeavours to get by all means and helps. He will not paſs for a Merchant, and therefore he wears a Sword by his ſide, and lives with the Arch Biſhop of *Dublin*. Both of them, I am told, Proſecute the Affair concerning which he hath written to you, and that you Communicate it to me. The other thing is, that the Kings Confeſſor tells us, That the King of *France* thinks in earneſt to recall Monſieur *de Ruvigny* from your Traffick; but he that is to be ſent in his place, does not pleaſe Mr. *Sheldon*, becauſe he ſays he,

he is not of the moſt conſiderable Merchants of this place, though he have a great deal of Wit; and I am of his Mind, as well for this Reaſon as for others that are known to me, and which I cannot yet impart to you. Whereof if Mr. *Coleman* would know of the Duke of *York*, if there be any Merchant here that would be acceptable to him, he may acquaint Monſieur de *Ruvigny* with it, and he will take care that by the means of the King's Confeſſor, it may be propoſed effectually to the King of *France*.

This would be very well for the Traffick of the Catholicks.

I expect to hear from you. I ſaw yeſterday my Lady *Throckmorton*, that is come to *Paris* to lye in, and who is ſhortly going back to *Pontoyſe*, ſhe has a Sore Leg contracted in Child-bed.

My humble Service to Madam *Coleman*; Pray take no notice of me to others, for I do not believe it fit for any one to know that I write to you ſo often: Believe me Sir, that I am altogether.

Your ſervant

De. Pontheia.

Tranſlated out of French *accordi n To the Cypher, delivered by the Lords of the Committee appointed to examine* Coleman's *papers.*

A Letter from St. Germain *to* Coleman.

January 19. 1675

Extract. Lect. pro Reg.

THE Brother of my Lady *de Ruvigny*, who is an Abbot, has made a Viſit to St. *Germain*, in order to ingage him to ſpeak in favour of the Prorogation to the King's Confeſſor; but St. *Germain* would do nothing without knowing from *Coleman* what his Opinion is thereupon. St. *Germain* has made the king's Confeſſor underſtand what the Duke of *York* could do by the Diſgrace of Two Perſons, of whom *Coleman* has written to St. *Germain*, and the vigorous Councils that were all abſolutely neceſſary to produce Succeſs in the Traffick of the Catholicks did proceed from the Duke of *York*, by the Inſpiration of *Coleman*, who was moſt perfectly addicted to the good of the Traffick of the King of *England*, the Duke of *York*, and the Catholicks. This St. *Germain* is very well intentioned, but he muſt be taught what he is to do.

Tranſlated according to the Key de-

livered

Intercepted by the Right Honorable the Lords of the Committee appointed to examine Coleman's *Papers.*

For Monſieur Coleman *the Dutcheſs Secretary in* Deans-Yard.

January $\frac{19\ 1675}{29\ 1676}$

I Know not whether you do receive my Letters, but I well know that I receive yours punctually enough, as I think. I have had your two laſt of the 6th. and 10th, your Stile, but they have given me ſome diſquiet; you Promiſe to tell me many things, and afterwards you fall very ſhort therein, ſometimes Twelfth-day is the Cauſe, and after it is becauſe you had not my Letter of the 5th. To put both you and my ſelf out of pain; I will tell you that I have writ to you the 5th, the 8th, the 12th, and the 15th of this Month, your Stile; add that I write to you to Day again, which is your 19th; you ſee one cannot be more exact. In all theſe Letters, I have writ to you of things that deſerved anſwering, Eſpecially concerning the conduct which Mr. *St. Germain* ought to uſe towards the Confeſſor of the King of *France*, and the new Ambaſſador; for he will not nor cannot do any thing till *Coleman* hath let him know his Thoughts. The Letters of the 8th; ſpeak of a Matter concerning which they will have me give an account, there was five Letters in that Pacquet, one whereof was for the Duke of *York*. Put me out of pain in this manner. The Secretary of Monſieur *Ruvigny* went on *Saturday* from *France* for *England*; the Secretary of the Ambaſſador from *England* in *France*, went alſo about the ſame time with him; you ought to know more of this buſineſs than I. The Brother of the Wife of Monſieur *Ruvigny*, who is an Abbot, is come to ſee Monſieur *St. Germain*, concerning the ſame Buſineſs about which Mr. *Coleman* wrote to Monſieur *St. Germain*, to the end that he might engage him to ſpeak in Commendation of the Prorogation, to the confeſſor of the King of *France*; but Monſieur *St. Germain* would do nothing till Mr. *Coleman* had let him know his thoughts thereupon. Monſieur *St. Germain* had obſerved to the Confeſſor of the King of *France*, how great the power of the Duke of *York* is by the diſgrace of the Two Perſons, concerning which, Mr. *Coleman* had writ to Monſieur St. Germain; *and that the vigorous Counſels, which were all abſolutely neceſſary whereby to ſucceed in the Traffick of the Catholicks, came from the Duke of* York, *by the Inſpiration of Mr.* Coleman, *who*

alſo

alſo done was the moſt truly linked to the welfare of the Commerce of the King of England, *the Duke of* York, *and the Catholicks.* This Monſieur St. *Germain* is very well intentioned; but it is neceſſary he be inſtructed what he muſt do. He hath not dared to ſpeak of any matter to the Succeſſor of Monſieur *Rouvigny*, and yet it is meet that he do inſtruct him, for the Secretary of Monſieur *Rouvigny* hath been to ſee him and it is to be feared leſt he hath given him evil Counce's, with which the new Ambaſſador being prepoſſeſt, perhaps he will Act in ſuch a manner as may not pleaſe Mr. *Coleman*, nor the Affairs of the Duke of *York*, and the Catholicks. I write to you by a new way, to ſee if it be more ſure; give me alſo a new addreſs, and ſuch a one concerning which, there may be no occaſion of Fear.

29 *Jan.* 75.
8 *Feb.* 76.

THis is the 5th Letter that I have written to you, and of which I have had no Anſwer. I ſee by your laſt Letter of the $\frac{17}{27}$ of *Jan.* that you have received Two of mine; that of the $\frac{5}{15}$ and of the $\frac{8}{18}$ of *Jan.* but you make no mention of thoſe which I ſent you beſides (*viz.*) of the $\frac{15}{25}$ and $\frac{19}{19}$ of *Jan.* and of the $\frac{22}{1}$ and of the $\frac{26}{5}$ I give you theſe Dates, to the end you may ſee whether you have received as many as I have ſent to you. I am glad that (93) the Dutcheſs, thinks upon (49) St. *Germain.* And (62) *Coleman*, cannot do him a greater pleaſure than to employ him as he do's in ſerving (93) the Dutches. This cannot but produce a very good effect with (163) the King of *France.* He will ſee thereby that People eſteem him in the Countrey of (110) *England.* and that (39 and 93) the Duke and Dutcheſs, being ſo far ſatisfied with him, as to give him, Commiſſions, he will become more engaged to give ear to the Letter of Recommendation of (39) the Duke, which (35) *Montecuculi* has promis'd to ſend (49) St. *Germain*, though he has not yet done it. And (62) *Coleman* will do a kindneſs to enquire of (34 and 35) the Earl of *Peterborough* and *Montecuculi*, what hinders that he has not yet received it. Beſides, that (49) St. *Germain is, and always will be moſt ready to deliver Meſſages in favour of* (39, 93, 300, and 62.) *the Duke, the Dutcheſs, the Catholicks, and* Coleman, *to* (488 and 163) *the Confeſſor and the King of* France believing himſelf moſt ſtrongly engaged thereto by the Teſtimonies of Goodneſs, which he has re-

ceived from them in time paſt And though he is without (80) Money, he will not ceaſe to Act as he ought, with Zeal and Fidelity, provided he be not ſent elſewhere, but left where he is, which yet may happen after *Eaſter*, he having no imployment to detain him where he is, unleſs (62) *Coleman* write to (488) the Kings Confeſſer, *either from or as from* (39 and 93) *the Duke and Dutcheſs, to ſignifie to him that thoſe two perſons deſire to make uſe of him, as a Correſpondent in their Traffick between them* (62, and 488, and 163) Coleman *and the Confeſſor, and the King of* France. *In which caſe* (49) St. *Germain would take his time to Act in favour of* (62) Coleman *with* (488, and 163) *the Confeſſor and the King of* France, *and to bring to paſs that* (62) Coleman *ſhall obtain* (26) *a Penſion of* 100000 *l.* ſter. *for himſelf*, If (49) St. *Germain* receive the Letters which he expects from (35) *Montecuculi*, and they have their effect, he will have *wherewith to pay the Charge* of his remaining where he is, and of all the affairs of *Commerce*, whereof Commiſſions ſhall be given him. (49) St. *Germain* will have no need of (80) Money, till after *Eaſter*. But at that time, if the Letters of (39) the Duke to (163) the King of *France* hath no ſucceſs, it will be impoſſible for him to enter into the Commerce, unleſs (62) *Coleman* obtain from (93 or 39) the Dutcheſs or Duke, one quarter more, like that which he received being in the Countrey of (110) *England*; that is to ſay between Thirty and Forty Pounds *ſterl.* And if this be once done for all, it will give him the means to ſubſiſt with Eaſe for above a Year; during which time, he hopes to put himſelf into a Condition of ſerving all the World, without importuning any body for ever. (49) St. *Germain* deſires you to tell all this to (62) *Coleman*, that he may take his Meaſures accordingly, and ſend his Opinion thereof to (49) St *Germain*, As for the Affairs of the *Carmelites* of *Antwerp*, (49) St. *Germain* will undertake it with warmth, as ſoon as ever he receives the Letters concerning it, which he expects by the next poſt. According to what (62) *Coleman* writes to him, by his Letter of the 17 Old ſtile of *January* 27 New ſtile which is to be at Eight a Clock this Evening: I deſire you, Sir, to Deliver Mr. *Rogers* the Letter of thanks which I write to him for his good News; I will ſend him in exchange a Writing againſt the Enemy of (49) St. *Germain*, and Mr. *Beddingfield* ſhall have it on *Wedneſday* next at fartheſt, when he departs from hence.

I am glad that that Enemy is decry'd there where you are, as well as he is here. But has (62) *Coleman* nothing to say to the new (41) Ambassador--- by the intervention of (49) St. *Germain?* He desires it, to the end to have occasion of speaking to the new (41) Ambassador-- concerning (62) *Coleman*; and by that means to be the better believed by the new (41) Ambassador, when he shall speak good to him of his best friend (62) *Coleman*. I leave Mr. *Warner* to send you the news, which are all concerning War. The *Spaniards* refuse the Passports, because the King terms the Prince of *Lorrain* Cousin and not Brother, in those which he has given to the Plenipotentiaries of the other Princes: 'Tis said that the *Jansenists* fall short of their expectations at Court; and that the King shews himself averse to them in all the steps which they make to ingratiate with him: Mr, *Arnauld* has not been able to make his Peace, though he has offered to subscribe the Doctrine of Mr. *Amelot*, Priest of the Oratory, touching sufficient Grace, according to the sence of this Author: And the Arch-Bishop of *Paris* has suspended a predicator, for not having spoken of the Popes and Councils as he ought: If I were in the street of St. *Antoine*, as I am in that of St. *Jaques*, I should know more news: Adieu, I pray believe that you have not a more faithful Servant, nor a more true Friend than me in all the World.

Translated by Sir *Henry Capel.*

To Mr. Coleman, *Secretary of the Commands of her Royal Highness*, Madam *the Dutches of* York, *in* Deans-yard, *Westminster.*

The 1 Old stile *of* March 11 New stile 75.

I Have received your Letter of the 25th of *Feb.* old *S*tile, 2d of *March* New Stile. I did not write to you on *Saturday*, *S*ir, and I shall send you very little by this Ordnary; because that the Letters from *England* being not arrived before *Tuesday*, and not upon *Monday*; I know not yet if there be any from you to me. In those they send me, I expect the Dutchesse's Letter, to desire Monsieur St. *Germain* to Treat with the King of *France:* Just now I have received a Letter brought me from *England*; but there is none from you: I thank you for your Good will for the Lady: Send me news of Mr. *Sheldon*, (an *English* Priest) what he does in *England*, will he stay there always? Monsieur St. *Germain* thanks Mr. *Coleman* for the

Marks of Friendſhip he gives him. And he has already thanked him, as he ſays, by his Precedent Letter; Monſieur St. *Germain* will ſend to know of him why Mr. *Coleman* would not have him ſpeak of what he ſends him concerning One hundred Thouſand Pound Sterling, promiſed to the King of *England*, by the Means of the the Duke of *York*. For it is to the purpoſe, as he believes, That the King's Confeſſor ſhould know it; to the end he may ſerve him in the Buſineſs, near the King of *France*; Monſieur St. *Germain* is of the Opinion with Mr. *Coleman*, as concerning the Great Treaſurer. And 'tis abſolutely neceſſary that it be known in the King of *France*'s Shop; otherwiſe it will hurt his Commerce, It ſuffices me to know that the Dutcheſs has received the Letter of Monſieur St. *Germain*, It was nothing but a pure Civility, touching the condition ſhe is in; and an affair was recommended to her, which is done ſince, I ſaw your Friend Yeſterday, he ſhew'd me News of you; He will come hither to day to be preſent at a Comedy which will be repreſented here. Monſieur *de Vantelett* is with me, and prays me to do you his Civilities, Pray do mine to Madam your Wife, and to Monſieur *Tarterean*, when you ſhall ſee him, We have no news, They prepare ſtrongly for the War, and they work ſtrongly to Accomodate the affair of Monſieur the Prince of *Conde*, to the end he may go into *Flanders*, and make head againſt the *Germains*; who will come with a very great *S*trength, I make you no Complements, *S*ir, neither in the beginning or finiſhing my Letters.

Tranſlated by Mr. *Anchitell Gray*.

To Mr. Coleman, *Secretary to her Royal Highneſs the Dutcheſs of* York, *in* Deans-yard, *Weſtminſter*.

March 8 Old *S*tile 18 New *S*tile 75.

The ſlow arrival of your Letters, hath very much diſquieted me; I thought my ſelf Dead in your Remembrance; But that which you writ to me of the of 12 New ſtile *March*, 2 Old ſtile hath again reſtored me to Life (at leaſt for ſome time); for the dulneſs where with the Buſineſs that you wot of, is carried on, will (I fear) let me die no other Death; & that, for Reaſons which you will hear of too ſoon. Thoſe of Catholick Religion, have deſired me to write to you, to let *Coleman* know the Condition of their Affairs; which is, that being for the preſent

ſent out of Purſe, it is altogether impoſſible for them to keep up the Trade long, without his help. Beſide, that the Party apprehendeth that his Trade failing in the Shop where he now is, he ſhall after *Eaſter* be ſent to ſet up in ſome other Town. But if he could have obtained from the D. of *York*, the Papers for which he hath ſo long waited, he might probably e're this time, have concluded his Buſineſs with the *French*-King, by the means of the King's Confeſſor; and he might have put himſelf in a condition to have continued his Trade, to the advantage of thoſe in whoſe favour thoſe Papers were written; for having no Imployment in his Shop, for want of Money, it is impoſſible that he ſhould keep it long; ſince he wanteth opportunity to make himſelf appear uſefull to the ſervice of the Duke and Dutcheſs; having no order to act in any thing whatſoever.

I am overjoy'd with what *Coleman* hath ſaid to the Dutcheſs; and with what the Duke hath done for the grand Treaſurer.

St. Germain hath made himſelf Enemies, by maintaining the opinion, that the Dutcheſs ought to be prevailed with, to manage her affairs otherwiſe than ſhe hath hitherto done I would gladly underſtand what anſwer the Dutcheſs hath made to *Coleman*. St. Germain *buildeth great hopes upon what* Coleman *writeth to him, about the Diſcourſe which the Duke held with the grand Treaſurer.* But *Coleman* may conſider, that if the Duke ſhall Treat any thing with the *French* King through other hands than the Confeſſors, he ſhall meet with people that will couzen him, & who will prefer the good of *France*, before that of the Catholick Religion, and of the Duke; and principally of *Coleman*, who hath many Rivals about this *R.* Highneſs; and who is neither ſufficiently known to nor hath any intereſt with the *French* King: If Monſieur *St Germain* were a little acquainted with matters, he would diſcourſe them freely with the Confeſſor; and learning from him the bottom of the matter, he would (without diſſimulation) communicate all to *Coleman*; whereas now it is to be feared, that the other Negotiators cheat the *Engliſh*, for the advantage of *France*, or for their own particular intereſt; for the chief Miniſter in the Councils of War, who hath at preſent an abſolute Power over his Chriſtian Majeſty, is altogether for War, which is neither the buſineſs of *England*, nor of the Roman Catholicks. Be ſure, that you make *Coleman* fully ſenſible of all this, for it is one of their moſt indiſputable Articles of Faith.

St

S. *Germain* hath desired me to tell you, That it is a hard matter to make *Coleman* understand what he desireth concerning the Lady's business; who, if you so please, will henceforth go under the name of Madam *de la Tremblay*: Because he plainly perceives, that those Persons who know altogether as much of that Affair as he, stand upon their reserve; and will not disclose themselves in what they know, nay of what they have acted with him. Nevertheless, I will tell you (in hope that it shall go no farther than our selves) no, not so much as to take notice of it to Madam *de la Tremblay*) *Montecuculi*, and the D. of *York* are the Two first who ever thought of putting it into the Dutchesse's head, to think closer of the Traffick than she had done; and that therefore finding no body in her Shop who was able to succeed make her sen sible of the Importance of that Affair, and the means to suceed in it; and that she had those Counsellors about her, which made her do things that were likely to ruine her whole Commerce; they concluded, that it was necessary to place some able trusty Person about her. They refused to make choice of any of the Dutchess's own; Country, by reason of the Experience which they had of him who was there already; and because they understand not the way of the *English* Trade nor indeed of the *English* men; as not having the Acquaintance of any, in whom they might confide. The Person nominated was esteemed very proper, as well for his own merit, as because that choice would oblige Mogsieur *Rouvigni*, the Catholick Party, and consequently the *French* King, to declare for the Duke and Dutchess.

And that this Person being of the Catholick party, and *Rouvigni* of the Protestant, both sides would be will pleased. To bring this matter about, *St. Germain*, by the advice of *Montecuculi*, discoursed the matter with Madam *de la Tremblay*, who hath as you know, all power over the Person upon whom they had cast their Eyes, to be placed in the Dutchess's shop. Madam *de la Tremblay* offered her assistance in all that they desired. The matter was then to be approved by the Duke and Dutchess. *Montecuculi* communicated it by Letter to the Banker, his Master (whose correspondent in *England*, the Dutchess is) who embraced the propolals, and promised to write thereof to the Dutchess, as he soon after did; but touched the matter tenderly, being content at first to recommend to her the care of his business,

ſineſs, and to have a more watchful Eye over it than formerly; and to take along with her the Advice of *Montecuculi*, who was acquainted with all his thoughts, and rightly ſet to contribute his beſt aſſiſtance toward the ſucceſs of his affair. The Dutcheſs thereupon enquired of *Montecuculi* what was expected for her to do? *Montecuculi* gave her her leſſon in writing, to ſtudy it at her leiſure, and without expreſſing the matter plainly, inſinuated to her, that ſhe wanted a good apprentice to take care of her *S*hop, and keep an exact account of all that paſſed through his hands. That her eldeſt apprentice had not Wit enough, That the ſecond was ignorant of the Affairs of *England*; and did not underſtand a word that was ſaid to him. That he ſet himſelf to no buſineſs; nay, that he was of a malicious *S*pirit, making ill Impreſſions in the Dutcheſs of all the Boys in the *S*hop, to preſerve himſelf ſingle in her favour. That the third was Dull, Careleſs, *S*cornful, and an Enemy to all activity. All this was ſaid to the Dutcheſs by *Montecuculi*; not indeed ſo downright as I have expreſſed it, yet ſo as the Dutcheſs might underſtand it if ſhe pleaſed; and I believe ſhe did ſo; but inſtead of receiving it as ſhe ought, ſhe ſeemed to be out of humour; and hath not (as I know) ſince that time, written any Anſwer to *Montecuculi*; but hath avoided all manner of Correſpondence with him: Wherefore *Montecuculi* and *St. Germain* thought fit to proceed another way, and make the Duke acquainted with what the Dutcheſs would not ſeem to underſtand.

Montecuculi diſcourſed the Matter with the Earl of *Peterborough*, without acquainting him that they had any deſign to place the friend of Madam *Tremblay* in the *S*hop; but barely to engage him to acquaint the Duke, with the ill conduct of the Dutcheſs; and to lay before him the Neceſſity of applying ſome proper and powerful remedy. But afterward *Montecuculi* and *St. Germain* ſought other Perſons leſs intereſſed, and better inclined than the Earl of *Peterborough*, for this Buſineſs. And if *Coleman* pleaſe, he may call to mind the diſcourſe with *St. Germain* had with him upon this *S*ubject, repreſenting to him the Neceſſity there then was of placing a Head Apprentice or Fore-man in the Dutcheſſe's *S*hop Nevertheleſs he did not then ſpeak all out, becauſe the friend of Madam *de la Tremblay*, being not then in *England*, they expected his return, to know of him if he would be content that *Coleman* ſhould be admitted to the knowledge of the Matter.

And

And accordingly *St. Germain* writ to Madam *la Tremblay's* Friend, who was then in *France*, to press his speedy coming over, that we might act joyntly, and without loss of time.

St. Germain had likewise Treated for Two other Persons; one of them he laboured to put into the good esteem of the Dutchess, and succeeded therein; and by the assistance of the First, introduced the Second. They are both well with the Duke. But herein *St. Germain* gave himself work enough? for these Two last persons are such, that *St. Germain* neither can, nor will treat with, by any but himself; and he hath such private reasons for it, that he dares not express them; and so forcible, that if he should utter them, all the world must be of his opinion, and do as he doth. He undertook likewise to taste (but obscurely) the mind of the Duke's Confessor, in censuring the weak conduct of the Dutchess's Ghostly Father, by laying open the miscarriages of the Dutchess, which required a speedy and vigorous remedy.

These are all the proceedings, as likewise the contrivances of *St. Germain* to gain his two unknown Friends, which could not yet be carried so close, but that some observations have been made of them; but none could ever discover the true cause of the groundless Jealousies which have been raised upon *St. Germain*; and which hath been the chiefest reason that he hath been abandoned in his misfortunes, & that no body concerneth himself to rescue him out of them. Thus you have the whole mysterie of the Business, which hath been so vigorously agitated with *Coleman*, the E. of *Peterborough* the two unknow persons, and the Duke's Confessor, upon the arrival of the friend of Madam *de la Tremblay* in *England* with intent (had not the accident befallen *St. Germain*) to persuade the Duke to consent to the doing of the work; & after his consent obtained, to have proposed it to the Dutchess, by her grand Banker *Montecuculi*: I should utterly despair if any, besides your self, were made acquainted with this matter I hope *St. Germain* will pardon me the laying open of his whole Secret to you: But I doubt whether he would be pleas'd that *Montecuculi* should know that he had discover'd it to you. Well then, Let *Montecuculi* come, and try if he would or could re-enter into the same negotiation with *Coleman*, the E. of *Peterborough*, and the Confessor of the Duke; who certainly is highly displeased with the Dutchess's Confessor and with others, whom you will judge proper for this Design. As for my self, who have no other part in it, but to advertise you thereof

A faire la Coup.

you

you may judge how unprofitable I am. But if the Duke would be perſuaded to write hither, That he wiſheth, or at leaſt that he judgeth it fit, that *St. Germain* ſhould appear in *England*. I know that the Two concealed Gentlemen would contribute toward it the utmoſt of their Power; and that then the Duke will be more Powerful than ever amongſt them, to make them act vigorouſly. But this is a Fancy of my Brain, to which *St. Germin* will not be brought, as judging it impoſſible; principally in regard of the Enemies which the Enterprize of this Affair hath raiſed him.

Tranſlated by *Sir G. Talbot.*

St Germain *to* Coleman.

18 Old ſtile 28 New ſtile of *March* 75.

I Have received yours, of the 9 Old ſtile *March*, and omitted to write to you for two Poſts; by reaſon I received no Letters from you I have given you an exact account of the Affair of our Friend Madam *de la Tremblay*, in my laſt Letters; to which I expect your Anſwer. *St. Germain* went Yeſterday to Viſit the Confeſſor, and to deliver him the Dutcheſs's Letter for the King of *France*; and this day he is to carry him a Memorial, to the end he may ſpeak Effectually to the King; and to the Satisfaction of the Dutcheſs. The Confeſſor hath received Mr. *Coleman's* Letter, and *St. Germain* hath already acquainted Mr. *Coleman* with it; but his Great Affairs hath made him forget it; If the Confeſſor hath not anſwered it, it is becauſe he expected the Dutcheſs's Letter, to anſwer both at once, after he ſhall have ſeen the Iſſue of the Buſineſs. It's ſaid That the King of *France* hath been very Melancholy for ſome days (being a lover of his Country) the Affair of *Meſſina* cauſes his Diſcontent; Others ſay, That he had formed ſome deſign (this year) for Trade, which hath been fruſtrate; Others, That it is only by reaſon of this time of devotion; He would ſometimes walk all alone, contrary to his Cuſtom. It's ſaid the Emperor Arms very powerfully. The Electreſs of *Bavaria* is dead, and the Empreſs very ſick; Madam *de Brinvilliers* the great Poiſoner, is taken Priſoner at *Liege:* They are demoliſhing *Hug*, *Dinant*, and the Cittadel of *Leige* It's ſaid for certain the King will part from *Paris*, *Wedenſday* after *Eaſter*, which will be the 8th. of *April*, our Stile.

I have received your of the 16 New ſtile *March*, I could not ſend

you this laſt *Saturday*; I ſend it on our Holy *Wedenſday*, being the 22 Olde ſtile *March* 1 New ſtile *April* St. *Germain* deſires me to tell you, that you will do him a great favour to thank Mr. *Coleman*, for all good Offices in his behalf; for which he can never ſufficiently return Thanks; he is of Opinion, that the Confeſſors with you had great reaſon to formalize on his proceedings; which he would condemn himſelf, if he had not the Reaſons, which he told Mr. *Coleman*, and which are ſuch in the preſent ſtate of Affairs, that if thoſe two Confeſſors were in his place, they would do the ſame. Mr. *Coleman* will alſo do him a Kindneſs, to make his Complements to Mr. *Mountecuculi*, whom he knows to be in all things his true Friend. For his Voyage into *England*, he leaves it in the hands of providence; but he doth not believe that we ought to begin, by engaging the Confeſſor to ſollicit this Affair, unleſs the Duke doth deſire it, or think it fit; *The Duke's Lord Treaſurer is very well diſpoſed to the good Succeſs, of this Buſineſs*, as they tell St. *Germain*; and he hath *reaſon to believe it True.*

It is Neceſſary (I ſay) abſolutely Neceſſary, that Mr. *Coleman* make himſelf better known in *France*, and to the King of *France* and his Confeſſor, by Negotiations concerning his Traffick; Therefore *St. Germain* wiſhes, That the Duke had ſome Occaſion to ſend him into *France*, to Treat of ſome Point of Commerce; becauſe appearing and acting, they would Intereſt him more deeply in the Trade. *St. Germain* hath given a Memorial to the Confeſſor, concerning the Affair of *Antwerp*; and the Confeſſor hath put it (in the preſence of *St. Germain*) in the Pacquet with the Dutcheſs's Letter to the King of *France*; and the Confeſſor hath promiſed *St. Germain* to ſpeak very earneſtly of this Affair; He went to Court on *Sunday* laſt, where he will ſtay 8 days; becauſe in that time they are accuſtomed to take a review together of the whole years account. Above all *St. Germain* hath recommended to the Confeſſor to act ſo, that the King of *France* might write back to the Dutcheſs, who was angry the laſt year, that ſhe received no Anſwer to a Letter ſhe writ to him. If Mr. *Coleman* did take a turn into *France*, I do not doubt but he *might obtain ſomething Confortable to the Promiſes of Mr.* Rouvigny; *but then he muſt be impowered in this Voyage. by the Duke's Commiſſions.* Send me ſome News of the Dutcheſs of *Mazarin*, whom I will hereafter call 98; and

of the Dutcheſs of *Portſmouth*, whom I will call 89; for ſeveral things are diſcourſed here, both of one, and the other. The Dutcheſs of *Cleveland*, arrived at *Paris*, *Monday* Evening 30 New ſtile *March*.

Tranſlated by *R. Whitley.*

To Mr. Coleman, *Secretary to her Royal Highneſs the Dutcheſs of* York *in* Deans-yard *in* Weſtminſter.

Paris 15 New ſtile *April* 76.

I Do almoſt like you, I write not to you when you write not to me; and ſend you only ſmall Letters, when you ſend not me great ones; and beſides, our News is yet very little. The King goes from hence to Morrow, but it is not yet known whither; ſome ſay, to Beſiege *Cambray*; others ſay, towards *Sedan*, to be betwixt *Germany* and *Flanders*; there are ſome who will have the King to go to *Philipsburg*, to oblige the Enemy to a Battel, at which he hath a great deſire once to be.

For other things, St. *Germain* deſires you will tell Mr. *Coleman*, that the King's Confeſſor hath poſitively aſſured him, that the *French* King will write to the Dutcheſs concerning the Buſineſs that is on foot the Confeſſor told it to *St: Germain* in ſuch manner, as he believes it will be to the ſatisfaction of the Dutcheſs. The Confeſſor alſo added upon what St. *Germain* repreſented to him, that the *French* King leaving his home to make a round towards his Enemies, could not ſo conveniently ſend the Letter of Exchange to *Antwerp*, as was deſired, if he did not do it before his departure; That the *French* King thought upon theſe Buſineſſes as well Abroad as at Home; It is Neceſſary that *Coleman* inform *St. Germain* of what ſhall happen, & if the Dutcheſs have received an Anſwer, & what it is, Madam *Tremblay* writ a Letter of *March* 26 New Stile to *St. Germain*, in which was expreſt that *Coleman* had not ſeen her in Ten days, to tell her what he had done. Madam *Tremblay* hath writ to Madam *Rouvigny's* Brother, to oblige him to ſpeak to the King's Confeſſor in favour of St. *Germain*, to procure him a Journey into *England*, if the Confeſſor had asked St. *Germains* advice upon't, he would have counſelled him not to take that way which can never do well.

The new Ambaſſador's Secretary is very earneſt with *St. Germain* to befriend him with the Confeſſor, and ſeems very zealous for the Duke of *York*, but St. *Germain* would know if this Secretary be as well with the Duke of *York* as he would make us believe, *and if the*

Duke hath all along truſted him with the ſecret of his Affair. St. Germain entertains him with fair promiſes, by that means to underſtand things which may be uſeful to his Friends, and chiefly to *Coleman*. This Secretary is much aſtoniſhed at the rumour that is here of the Duke of *York*, *having received no News of it*; and St. *Germain* is a little angry at *Coleman*, that he hath writ nothing to him of it.

Tranſlated by *Sir E. Jennings:*

For Mr. Coleman *Secretary of her Royal Highneſs in* Deans-yeard, *Weſtminſter.*

July 25 New ſtile (*No year Named.*)

I Did not believe Sir, that I ſhould have written to you this day, becauſe Mr. *Gray* will himſelf write to you, to whom I told all my News; ſo that you are to expect none from me now. You may aſſure Mr. *Coleman* that Monſieur St. *Germain* will deliver that Letter to Madam *la Tremblay*, which he addreſſed to her; but at the ſame time that he promiſed it, he ſaid that he had not lately heard any thing of her, nor could he certainly tell whether ſhe were yet arrived, but he would make a diligent Inquiry, and pay his Devoir in all things to Mr. *Coleman*, and would perform even more than was deſired when ever he could. Monſieur *St. Germain* is in good earneſt highly Obliged to Mr. *Coleman* for all thoſe Induſtrious pains he takes upon his account, and in a particular manner for thoſe papers we wanted, that he wants Language to expreſs his Gratitude. Monſieur *St. Germain* has received a Letter from the King's Confeſſor, and from the Ambaſſador, wherein he is to make his adreſs to that Confeſſor, that the Succeſſor of St. *Germain* be not ſent, not indeed any other of the *French* Nation; as Mr. *Coleman* ſeems to be ingaged in this Paper, *St. Germain* intreated me to write every thing which related to *Coleman*, who was thereupon to take his meaſures, for I ſee very well, that Monſieur *Ronvigny* is ſtrangely bent againſt the *Jeſuits*, and the Duke and *Coleman*, and I much apprehend his giving the ſame Sentiments to the King of *France*, and to his Confeſſor, and the Miniſter of State: And therefore Mr. *Coleman* muſt manage carefully this Affair, without the leaſt taking notice that he knows any thing from Monſieur *St. Germain*; you muſt take eſpecial care not to prejudice our Friend, that he may be the better able to Traffick with the King's Confeſſor, and

Mr.

Mr. *Sheldon.* As to the Reſt, you muſt know that the Duke has conſented that St. *Germain's* Succeſſor ſhould not go into *England*, provided that the King's Confeſſor will name another; I could wiſh that the Dutcheſs would have ordered a little Note to be writ to the King's Confeſſor about this matter, and that by an agreeing to his deſires, that the Succeſſor might Remain with him ſtill, and not go into *England*, the Dutcheſs might then the better put him in mind of the Merchants of* *Antwerp*; for the King's Confeſſor does apprehend the mentioning any ſuch thing to the King of *France*, becauſe the King having given his direction already to a Miniſter of State, who is at preſent in the Army againſt *Holland*, it belongs only to that Miniſter to put this Affair in execution; for it is the way here, that no miniſter dare to Act in any Matter that is not committed to his Province; for the King will have it ſo. And therefore if the Confeſſor be not preſſed with ſome new Motive, I ſhall hardly be able to make him act. Our old Ambaſſador Monſieur *Rouvigny* is arrived in Town; where St. *Germain* now is, he came on *Saturday* laſt, and St. *Germain* has let know, that he will ſee him either to day or to morrow; which he could not do before, by reaſon of his calling, which has taken him up without intermiſſion till yeſterday. There is no news yet, but is expected every moment; the Town of *Ayre* is hard preſſed, and is believed will be ſoon taken. Mounſieur *Luxembourge* is taking Orders that a proviſion of Oats be ſent to him before he goes to attack the Enemy.

* *Supposed to be the* Jeſuits.

Tranſlated out of *French* into *Engliſh* by the Lord *Ancram.*

POSTSCRIPT.

YOu will diſcern with Monſieur De Vertharnout, *whether it be requeſite that he comes, becauſe upon* Friday *laſt, the King of* England *has done ſomewhat to the* Portugal *Ambaſſador* (*of which he told me the whole ſtory*) *and I likewiſe have learnt it from Monſieur* Rouvigny, *who entertained me near a hour, under great confidence that they had abſolutly taken from that Ambaſſador the total Uſe of his Chappel; but beſides that Monſieur* Rouvigny *ſaid, That he finds that the Storm will unqvoidably fall upon* France, *and the Catholicks who are very angry that endeavours are made to bring a Succeſſor to Monſieur St.* Germain,

Germain, *of the* French Nation. *And he further ſays, that it is abſolutely to Ruine the Catholick Religion, and to irritate the Enemies of* France, *Neither doth he doubt, but that it will alſo prove fatal to the Duke, for which he abſolutely blames the Jeſuits and Mr.* Coleman, *who are now more* than ever in the greateſt Band of Averſion to the Proteſtants *and likewiſe to one part of the Catholicks and Miniſters of State; for they are perſuaded, ſays he, that thoſe who are of the Condition of the King of* France's *Confeſſor and of the* Dukes, *do Act moſt impudently, in that they are intangled betwixt the King and the Catholicks, becauſe they would introduce an Authority without Limits, and puſhes Mr.* Coleman *to make ſuch ſtrange ſteps, which muſt precipitate them into Deſtruction; and above all, they will attribute this to* France: *So that Monſieur* De Rouvigny *is mightily ill ſatisfied with this proceeding, for it is moſt certain that the perſecution will be very terrible againſt the Duke and the Catholicks, and all the Jeſuits; and above all againſt* France.

Tranſlated by the Lord *Ancram.*

The following Letters were Written by Father Sheldon, (*as he is commonly called*) *Directed all* (at leaſt *except* One) *to Mr.* Coleman.

May 22th. 1675.

YOu will pleaſe Sir with theſe to receive my thanks for two of yours, both which came to my hands ſince the departure of the laſt Ordinary. The proceedings of the Parliament are ſufficiently ſuſpected by the King of *France*; And it were to be wiſh'd, that *Holland*, and the Confederates had not ſo much cauſe to flatter themſelves that the Parliament may at laſt be able to effect any thing of that kind, which is pretended. I ſuppoſe Monſieur *Rouvigny* is not wanting on this Occaſion to ſecure the Intereſt of the King of *France*. I expect with impatience the Iſſue of the Ten days, which are to produce ſomething that you intend me for a *Regallo*. I hope It will prove a Diſſolution, for a prorogation would be of no Uſe. Lord Treaſurer, I fear, is not a Friend to the Catholicks; and yet I am told, That he has lately found the Endeavcurs of the the Duke to have been of great uſe to him. I ſhall not long trouble you with thoſe Affairs; her R. H. I hope will allow me to Addreſs to her by your mediation, and then I am ſure the tender of my moſt humble Duty will be preſented to her with Advantage.

June

June the 1st.

I Cannot omit to give you this Trouble, to let you [illegible] you have fully ſatisfied me, as concerning the ten days, and I hope your next will add the certainty of it, what the iſſue may be of Diſſolution, you may poſſibly conjecture, but I fear a Prorogotion would leave all things in the ſame poſture in reference to Religion, and then it muſt needs go ill with the Catholicks, but I hope the Duke will not be wanting to improve this occaſion and the Duke of *Lauderdale* will ſure be of the ſame opinion. I will not anſwer for Lord Treaſurer. I ſent you one lately for the Dutcheſs, I cannot tell whether it has come to your hands. I ſhall not fail to ſerve your Friends at *Antwerp*, and poſſibly I may go ſhortly into thoſe Parts, and by the way find an opportunity to get an Anſwer to their Requeſt. I ſhould be heartily glad of any occaſion to ſerve you, and to acknowledge your Kindneſs towards me, which I eſteem in a particular manner; being bound upon that account to be always your moſt Obedient Servant.

There was not any Key found, whereby the firſt and great part of the following Letter could be decypher'd; but towards the end is written ſome ordinary Matter without Cypher. It does not certainly appear whether this were written to Mr. Coleman, *or ſome other Perſon.*

Paris, June *the* 8*th.*

THe late Promotion of Cardinals does not pleaſe every where. The Duke *D'Eſtre* Ambaſſador at *Rome*, being admitted to a private Audience, his Holineſs having anſwered him to the point concerning the Diſpute betwixt the Ambaſſadors and the Cardinal Patron, was going to ring his Bell; but the Ambaſſador hindred him, and began to ſpeak of the Promotion of Cardinals, challenging the Pope to have promiſed him that the Biſhop of *Marſeilles* ſhould be promoted; to which his Holineſs reply'd, that he had never engaged his Promiſe to do it, and that the Importunity of the Ambaſſadors did not at all advance thoſe Pretenſions, and thereupon rung his Bell; and when the Attendants came in, the Ambaſſador ſaid he had not finiſhed his Audience, and ſtaid in the Chamber until the Company was about to retire, and then advanc'd towards the Pope's Chair, and began to preſs for further Satisfaction in that concern of the Ambaſſadors; upon which, the Pope riſing up, the Ambaſſador with both hands

hands preſs'd him down to his Chair, and the Pope thereupon told him, *he was Excomunicated*; This paſsage is thus recounted by the chief Officer of the Nuntio here, who is now made Cardinal, and has Orders from the Pope to complain of ſo rude a Proceedings. Sir *John Arundell* ſets forward on *Tueſday*, by whom I ſhall write to ſeveral of my Friends. I am yours from my whole Heart, and muſt deſire you to get me an Anſwer from *Sir George Wakeman*.

Paris, *the 25th of* June.

Lect' pro Rege: THeſe are only to beg Sir your Excuſe for not anſwering at this time the Particulars of your laſt Pacquet which I received, and have perform'd your Commands in all reſpects: I hope I ſhall hear often from you, and that you will give me ſome Commiſſions to Monſieur *Pompone*, when I ſhall be at a convenient diſtance to perform them. I approve of all that you were pleas'd to write, and am confident you hit the deſign, and hope you will give your Inſtructions in order to procure that it may be timely *prevented*. The Duke will take, I hope, other Meaſures, *and then* you will have ſome need of the King of *France*, who methinks is not ſecure, unleſs he advance what you propoſe. Conſult with your Friends, and adviſe how *France* may be Inſtrumental towards it. *Limbourg* is taken. The Prince of *Orange* after his great Bravour, Retreated to the other ſide of the River upon the appearance of 15000 Horſe of the *French*: Monſieur *Turenne* has Defeated Three Regements of the Enemy, and ſecur'd the Paſsage of the Bridge of *Strarbourg*: I ſhall attend with impatience to receive ſome Commands from you

Paris, June *the 29th*, 75

I Know not Sir, by what miſtake yours of the 3*d*. came yeſterday to my hands, with your laſt of the 14th. Though I am at a great diſtance from *Pompone*, yet if you think it convenient, I ſhall find means to informe him of what you ſhall Judge fit to impart. In your laſt, I had no particulars, and yet I have learn't from others, that Lord *Shaftsbury* had not ſo cold a Reception, as you intimate; was not the Duke intereſſed in it? and if ſo, Muſt it not prove of Conſequence to the Catholicks, and drive at the ſame deſign againſt the Proteſtants, as is obſerved by you? I am glad to preceive that you are ſo well

with

with Monſieur *Rouvigny*, and that you concur in Opinions. *France* can never rely upon a ſure foundation, till the Duke be able to ſecure it; and Monſieur *Rouvigny* I fear is not ſufficiently perſwaded that it is feaſible to ſet the Duke in ſuch a poſture, and therefore it is not attempted; But did the King of *France* intereſs himſelf in it, much might be effected, and to invite him to it, it is requiſite, That he ſhould be inform'd, that all difficulties which oppoſe, may eaſily be remov'd; but the Cards are not yet ſhuffl'd, when they are dealt you will know how to direct the playing of the Game, and I hope you will diſcover to me ſome hands. I wiſh I were able to contribute any thing to your ſatisfaction; you know the power which you have over your moſt obedient Servant.

Paris, July *the* 13*th*. 75.

I Had not leiſure to anſwer yours of the 24*th*. by the laſt Ordinary; for which I beg your pardon. *To put the Duke into the poſture you ſpeak of, ought certainly to be the endeavour of the King of* France, *and Monſieur* Pompone; *but as you obſerve, Mr.* Rouvigny *is no proper inſtrument for that purpoſe. I have already declar'd my ſenſe, but moſt eſpecially to the King of* France's *Confeſſor, who was ſenſible of it, and told me, That the ſeveral inconveniencies and incongruities ſhould be remedied; and when the occaſion offers, I ſhall further inſiſt by way of humble advice, if I have no other Ground to preſs it more ſeriouſly, that the* French *Ambaſſador may be wholly ſubordinate to the Duke, and that nothing can more ſecure the intereſt of* France *and* Pompone, *than to make it appear, that they do eſpouſe that of the Duke. If Lord* Berkley *be Ambaſſadour, then Sir* Ellis Leighton *will not be idle; and there may be good uſe made of ſuch an inſtrument, if the right way be taken. I ſhould be glad Lord* Shaftsbury *had better footing, and that he were intereſſed for the Duke. Our laſt Poſt is not yet arriv'd; but we are aſſur'd that the Parliament will not fail at the due ſeaſon, and that Lord Treaſurer fails of nothing.* I hope you are ſufficiently aſſur'd that *Sheldon* will ſerve you upon all occaſions, with as great fidelity as you can deſire; but if he may not in ſome ſort be ſerviceable to the Duke, it will be more convenient for him to change his ſtation; but in this he will be influenced by your ſelf.

Colombe, the 17th. of *Aug.*
Lect' pro Rege.

I Have ſcarce time, D. Sr, to give you my thanks for the favour of yours of the 2*d* of *Aug:* which I will acknowledge like a Correſpondent, God willing, by the next Ordinary. In the mean time allow me to aſſure you, that *Coleman* has made the beſt judgment of the Propoſal of Mr. *Sheldon*, that the ſubject, in regard to all circumſtances, was capable of; neither did *Sheldon* deſign that the old cloaths ſhould be thrown away till *Spain* proffer'd new ones; That which was chiefly recommended to *Coleman* was, to find out means to ſuggeſt to *Spain* that he ſhould fit the Duke with ſuch a Sute, as is there propos'd, and then perhaps the Dutcheſs's Friend would not refuſe to wear the Livery. *Sheldon* nor Biſhop of *Dublin* cannot at this diſtance make any advance in it; but the latter, who underſtands the humour of *Spain*, thinks that if it were ſuggeſted with all the advantages that will enſue, the proffer will come from thoſe of *Spain*. *France* is not in a condition to quit his friends upon meer ſuſpicions; on the contrary, they will render them more conſiderable to him. Here is a perſon in this Town, that is call'd Sir *Charles Prettyman*, who has correſpondence with ſeveral Parliament men, from whom he ſays he is aſſur'd, that the difference betwixt the Two Houſes is already compos'd, and that they are agreed to enter no more into thoſe Diſputes, but unanimouſly to endeavour a War againſt *France*, and to unite the King's ſubjects in that Deſign, to give liberty of conſcience, knowing very well, that then the Papiſts themſelves will be as earneſt againſt the *French* as any others; which I take to be a very reaſonable judgement. I wiſh you could give me ſome aſſurance of this. But let *Coleman* know, that *Sheldon* in this conjuncture cannot tell what may be more for the purpoſe of the Duke and Catholicks, than what *Coleman* deſires to know, whether it be the wiſh only of *Sheldon*, and indeed it is only his wiſh; becauſe he cannot tell at this diſtance how to advance any thing towards the ſuggeſting to *Spain* how he might find his Accounts in it; and from that conviction induce him to proceed; but he hopes that *Coleman* may have opportunities to do this, and that effectually; His reflections are juſt; and comprehend the whole to the full; If this way be not taken, I conceive a languiſhing condition will be the hard fate of many to whom we wiſh well. The *French*

King's

King's condition is in a decline; you will infer from thence what is neceſſary. When I told you that the Ambaſſador of *Spain* was ſuſpected, in reference of the Dutcheſs's Friend, I did not intend to ſay poſitively that the Duke was thereupon ſuſpected by *France*; but that thoſe that belong to the *French* King, did entertain ſome Jealouſies upon it, and that the Ambaſſador of *Spain* was frequently with the Dutcheſs's Friend, was told me by the Correſpondent of the Duke; who he is, the Bearer of theſe can tell you.

I hope to have the diſpatch for your Three Friends by the next Poſt. If you are ſatisfy'd with the Biſhop of *Dublin*'s and *Sheldon*'s proceedings, they are at eaſe; but were afraid that things had been ill repreſented to you, ſince thoſe of that party have been found to blame upon that account, by the next God willing you ſhall have more upon that ſubject. I pray God continue and proſper the hopes you give of your Miſtriſs. I am, without reſerve, Yours.

Colombe, Aug: *the* 30*th*.

SIR,

I Have yours of the 12*th*, which I had anſwer'd by the laſt Poſt, if I had not ſpent ſo much time in the ſearch of *K*. from whom I expected the Diſpatches for your Shee friends. I am ſorry they are not yet ready, and that you muſt have patience till the return of the Court from *Fountainblaeu*. I am glad you are ſatisfy'd with the Biſhop of *Dublin*'s and Mr. *Sheldon*'s proceedings; and I deſire you not to apprehend that any prejudice will fall upon Religion or the Catholicks upon a controverſie of that account, which being now wholly referred to *Rome*, muſt expect ſuch an iſſue, as ſhall there be determined; but they are not uſually too expeditious in thoſe kind of Diſpatches, and therefore I aſſure my ſelf it will be a conſiderable time before you hear any thing more concerning that ſubject. Yet becauſe you ſeem to expect to have from me *the utmoſt* of what can be ſaid upon it, though I dare not undertake for ſo full an account; yet I ſhall endeavour to give you a Teſtimony that I ſhall not be wanting to contribute all that I can to your ſatisfaction, but I cannot undertake for it by this Poſt, both by reaſon of other Diſpatches, which ly upon my hands, as alſo becauſe my indiſpoſition of health which binds me to the obſervance of Phyſical preſcriptions, and other mournful accidents, do take up the greateſt part of my time, and too great a ſhare of my Thoughts

Now I must inform you, *That the immediate Predecessor of Monsieur* Rouvigny *did send for a Friend of ours, the next in degree to Lord* Almond, *and desir'd to know his opinion of the project, which the Ambassador of* Spain *had laid to draw the King to make War against* France, *and thereupon told him how it was contriv'd, that the House of Lords and Commons, should upon that condition furnish Money, and accommodate the Catholicks; those of* France *seeing how far they are from any present capacity of offering such advantages, and how easie it is for those of* Spain *to procure them, they can scarce allow their fears to prevail above their hopes after they have rightly weigh'd the interest which Religion has in it. Yet he did not omit to say, That the Duke would not desert* France, *though he could not doubt but that Religion would have the Ascendant. Your friend, and my Kinsman Mr.* K. *well known to the Confessor of the Duke, and of the same Profession, might, methinks, be highly serviceable upon this occasion, if he would only sound the* Spanish *Ambassador upon this subject, and represent to him, according as occasion shall be given, the many and great Advantages which would accrew to* Spain, *and of the great damages that would ensue to* France *upon this accompt; but to make it efficacious he must shew the necessity of engaging the Duke and Catholicks in the Concern of it, without which it will never have any steady Effect. I need not suggest to you any farther considerations on this Subject, the prudence of* Coleman *will direct you, and from thence I shall hope to see a good issue for the Catholicks. I have not many Discourses with Sir* P. *but he is still of the same opinion as formerly, and affirms, that no other means can effectually conduce to the satisfaction of the House of Lords and Commons, and those whom they are engaged for. If you see no appearance of success this way, be so kind as to shew me some other Scheme, upon which we may ground any comfortable expectations. In the mean time we must content our selves, with such hopes as we are able to furnish.*

Colombe, Septemb. *the 24th,* 75.

I Have yours of *6th.* and one Weekly from *Coleman*'s Man, for all which I return most hearty thanks; and though it be my Misfortune not to have hitherto succeeded in the Pretensions of our Shee-friends; yet upon the delivery of the second Memorial, I was promis'd an Infallible Dispatch this week, which will cost me another Journey to *Versailles*, and I hope to send it to you by Mr. *Nicholls*. He and his charge arriv'd at *Paris* on *Friday* last late at night. I was

the

the next day in Town upon no other Design than to meet *Pompone* upon the account of that business. *He told me some daies before, that the Interest of the Religion of the Catholicks, was likely to be promoted by the* Spainish *Ambassador, and the Friends of the King of* Spain; *I reply'd, That it was too great an Undertaking, and that it could not take any effect, especially since they did imploy no Endeavours to gain the Duke and his party to that Interest; and though it was reported here that the Duke had frequent Conferences with the* Spainish *Ambassador; yet I did assure, that there were no such Applications made, and that the* Duke *was as much attack'd to the King of* France *as ever. It would have become Mr.* Sheldon *to have said this, though he had not been so sure of the truth of it, as he is by the Information of* Coleman. *The Decline of of* Spain; *I confess, must needs require a long time to regain Power, and that first to secure his own Interest, before he can be in a posture to promote that of Religion. The hopes on* Spain's *side, are not so remote, and you have rais'd my Expectation from thence to no low Degree; because* Coleman *seems not only to approve of it, but to think it worth his pains to lay out his Contrivances and Endeavours upon it. I wish my kidsman were engag'd, and possibly the opportunity may now be favourable; at least if he will not enter into the Negotiation, he may easily introduce* Coleman, with those Advantages, as may make him be esteem'd a fit Instrument, and worthy to be trusted in that concern, and he having such an Introduction, I shall not doubt but that he will be able to give a very good account of the Business. It draws near the 29; but I hope there is yet time enough to dispose things in order to that design. I do not well comprehend how the Danger is over on the part of the prorogation; unless it be in Reference to the Opposition of the City of *London.* I should be glad to promise my self that it were in Relation to the Duke; who is said to be the Person that obstructed the Prorogation, and the Procurer of the Parliaments present Installation; The Design of my Lord Treasurer, I hope will have no Effect. The Alliance with the Prince of *Orange*, some say, is sought for by the *French* King, for one of the Dukes of France but this but a guess yet such a one as gives suspition to *Spain*, that there is like to be some Clandestine doings betwixt *Holland* and *France*; But why do I so much intrench upon your better Employs? I shall only assure you, that Mr. *Sheldon* is your *S*ervant, and that *Coleman* will always find him so to his Power.

Colombe, *October* the 10th.

SIR.

I *Have yours of the* 20th *of* September, *And whereas you seem to intimate that it is almost a Month since you receiv'd any from me, I have call'd my self to an account, and cannot find that I have effectually been so much wanting to my own satisfaction, as not to continue upon you sufficient Provocation to allow me the Favour of your Corespondence. I am become so mistrustful upon this reproach, of my own memory, that I could almost persuaded my self to doubt whether I have inform'd you of a delay that is cast upon the Pretensions of your shee Friends, which I hope will soon be remov'd, since it only depends upon a Return from* Lisle, *whose Magistrates were to be consulted in that Concern; and upon their Answer I hope you will have satisfaction to the Address which has been made. Have I not likewise bemoan'd my misfortune, for having had only a Glimpse of Mr.* Grey, *having disappointed each other, by my going to him, and his coming to me, upon the same Day? This I do chiefly resent; because, I suppose he might have had some particular Commission from you, and had not Opportunity to make me partaker of it. The Secretary of Monsieur* Rouvigny, *has inform'd me of your good Correspondence with his Master, which must needs render you Suspected to the* Spanish *Ambassador; but I shall expect according to your promise, the Issue of my Kinsman's Negotiation;* What measures the *Spanish* Ambassador has taken with the Parliament, a little time will discover; but unless the *Spanish* Ambassador ingages the Duke upon the account of the Catholicks, the King of *Spain* will not find his account *The Duke, I suppose; has gain'd no small Credit with the Parliament; It is resolved to think so, if Common Report may be allowed for truth. What must that produce? any advantage to the Catholicks does not the Duke expect to be Reenstalled? Was not that promis'd by those of prorogation? are there any appearances of these Expectations from the Parliament?*

We are here inform'd, That the Parliament designs to give money for the Fleet, upon Condition the King will reduce the Number of the French *Men of War, to the account which they formerly kept with Queen* Elizabeth. *The King here has of late been ill dispos'd, and subject to a little* Virtigo. *He has laid a Tax upon the men of the Roab, which will furnish a vast Sum without any burthen to the People; and he has given out Commissions for great Leavies for the next Campaign.*

I

I ſhall not overcharge you with News, you are better inform'd from other hands. Your Town will ſhortly be the Scene of News, and then I hope you will make me Partaker of the Tranſactions. In the mean time I am,

S I R,

Your moſt Obedient Servant *L. S.*

THE *Letters next following were written by Sir William* Throgmorton *to Mr.* Coleman.

And his general manner of writing was this; he wrote a Letter with ink concerning ſome ordinary trivial matter, as about Perſons taking Coatch to travel, about the faſhion of wearing Crape, &c. *writing the lines at a pretty broad diſtance, leaving a ſpace between for interlining: In this ſpace, and upon the remaining blank of the Paper, he wrote with* Juice of Lemmon *the Secret Matter which now is here printed.*

The uſe of ſuch Writing was, that if the Letters were intercepted, or miſcarried, nothing would appear to the Caſual Reader *but the frivolous Matter writ in* Ink, *but when they came to the hands of his Correſpondent; he heated them at a fire, and that made the Lemmon Juice appear, and become legible.*

But it falls out in this way, that if the Writer do not ſtrictly watch, he will ſometimes write dry, the juice which was in the Pen being ſpent. Alſo by unwary holding to near the fire the Paper is liable to be ſinged.

By *ſuch accidents there happen to be ſeveral Obliterations, and Blanks and breaks in theſe Letters; which interrupts the Current of the diſcourſe in ſome places, and thereby part of this evidence is loſt.*

Paris 1. *December.*

Lect. pro Rege,

MR. *Pompone* return'd me my Paper again yeſterday, and told me that the French King had ſeen it and was extreamly ſatisfied with it, that nothing pleas'd him more, than the aſſurance I thereby gave *him of my Confidence that the Duke was reſolved to continue his kind purpoſes to him, that he deſire me, that I would aſſure the Duke that nothing ſhould turn him from this towards him, and that he ſhould not rejoyce in any thing more than to be able to help him to be, or to ſee him by any means cheif Factor for our Company, for that* he very well knew, that nothing but that could ſecure his own Stake there, what therefore his Sentiments of Lord *Arlington* were might gueſs, and how gladly we would ſee

him

him disposd of as we desire, but that he thought his medling in it would rather hinder than advance our design, however that he was willing to receive directions in it from the Duke, and that he should alwayes be ready to joyn and work with him in any design he should judge for the good of that common Trade.

That as for the Dissolution of the Parliament to be, he judged it an admirable, nay *necessary work*, but that the time being yet pretty far off, and that *Spain*, the Emperour, and *Holland*, having chosen the King for the Umpire of the differences between them and him, he thinks he may stay a little in that point, till he hears from the King upon his Umpirage, and see what course he intends to take for it, but that he absolutely relied upon the Duke, for the chooſing of proper sidesmen in that business, for that he put his only confidence in him for it; he told me moreover, that the French King would gladly have writ to the Duke, but for fear of accidents, which might turn it to both their disadvantages, but that as he absolutely believed the account I gave him, of the Company, and Trade, and the Dukes great affection to him, though I had no Order from the Duke for it, because he very well knew how I was concern'd for him, for he hoped the Duke would put the same confidence in this that I told him from his patt, that all this was very fine and head, but that for all that to delay working for the dessolution of the Parliament might be dangerous, & that therefore I desired him to move the French King to consider of it again, that for my part he saw I was an unimployed person in it, and had no other design but their good as they were common traders, but that by what insight I had in the Trade, I thought they ought to lose no time, and so hazard little accidents for so great a good, for that at this rate of third hand talking they would never understand one another, or effect any thing, though they did me great honour to offer me so much trust upon my private credit, that yet by that means and general talk they would never be able to carry on the Trade roundly: We parted then with this after a long discourse and many arguments, that he would again propose the thing to the French King, and that he thought my reasons were so convincing and kind to them, that he doubted not, but the French King would either himself, or order him to write, and that in four or five dayes I should hear from him.

Pray direct your Letter to Mr. *Mer* at the Corner of the street

of

St. *Benet* in the *Fobourgh* of St. *German* at *Paris*, and in the bottom and give me ſome for you

I cannot doubt that I could of my friend here and ſome others make half an O, try you what you can there in caſe the *French* King ſhould be backward in that point, and that that ingredient ſhould be requiſite to carry on the work I ſpoke with Monſieur *Pompone* again, of whom I had almoſt the ſame ſtory I gave you in my former, but that truly had not had opportunity to ſpeak to the King, yet alone but that he would, and much of that; they ſeem to wonder much they hear nothing from the King, yet upon this late buſineſs, his Factor here has had yet no manner of orders what it concerns them, as themſelves ſay, to have the Duke their friend in this buſineſs, but yet I begin to doubt they would willingly engage him to be ſo through the reaſon of his own intereſt and as many fair words, and what elſe you pleaſe, but pence: that that is the reaſon they were writing, yet for fear of coming to cloſe dealing, that is the Parliament is ſet far off, and they think cannot poſſibly come to join till the Spring, if in the mean time by the Duke his heartineſs for them, which, as I ſaid, they think his own intereſt and their own great expreſſions of kindneſs will engage him to, they can get a good accommodation and regulation among all the diſſenting Brothers they have their aim, if not they think the ſame price will do four months hence as well to ſtop them as now, though they are infinitely miſtaken all I can for to keep that intereſt on foot againſt them will certainly be the greateſt perhaps the only means of compaſſing what they ſo much deſire; but parting with readie mony you know is a hard thing, eſpecially with Merchants: if you can think of any thing more for me to ſay upon this ſcore, pray write it in *French*, that I may ſhew it them, that is what you think fit they ſhould ſee, for *Pompone* deſired me that I would let him know when I heard any thing, but if I hear nothing from you, I think it is the beſt way to let him alone a little, perhaps it may make them the forwarder, eſpecially if *Sweden* and *Holland* court the King ſo much to draw him the one way, and the other the contrary, as I hear they do; and if the Duke will but play that Game cunningly, he may certainly bring the *French* King to what he pleaſes, though I muſt confeſs I had rather have him have 200000 pounds of the Catholicks, than 300000 *l.* of the *French* King, that is to get

the Parliament diſſolved, for that would ſhew the *French* King what the Duke was, and would make him much more helpful and complaiſant to him; but here is the Work you'l ſay, and I muſt confeſs, it is ſuch a one too, as takes up my thoughts night and day, and I would have *Coleman* think of it too, for it would be a great work, as it is a difficult one, and perhaps is an abſolute neceſſary one: I ſhall in a little time let you know ſomewhat certain from it, but I believe I may venture to promiſe half 100000 *l.* from hence; ſure 100000 *l.* on your ſide might be compaſſed. The Man I ſo often ſpoke to you of in this buſineſs, is the beſt Man in the world, he ſwears it ſhall not ſtick at all his Eſtate, but the Duke ſhall be accommodated. And with all this his chief Friends, as *Pompone*, and *Colbert*, and *Louvois*; as much divided about war or peace as is poſſible. Now, I ſay, with all this if the Duke would ſtrike the ſtroke without them you would ſee what an operation it would be, and on my ſoul I believe a quarter of 100000 *l.* or leſs in the glittering mettal to the King of *England* himſelf into his own pocket may weigh as much upon an occaſion with him, as ten times as much into the common ſtock, or buy land with, and if ſuch a buſineſs
to the Duke he may make his account on it when he pleaſes, he ſhall not want it long for that purpoſe: I then reſolve not to ſee *Pompone* for theſe reaſons: you ſay you had not ſpoke with the Duke, but he had had a long diſcourſe with *Rouvigny*, which you knew not what it was, nor what the Duke knew of Lord *Arlington* in his buſineſs, nor what perhaps he now would have me do. *Rouvigny* failed to write what he knew, and what the Duke told I will not therefore come to them with my fingers in my mouth, nor to be caught, in that I reſolve not to ſee them, till I hear from you again: You ſay not a word, how the acceptation of the King for Umpire reliſhes with you, nor what the King intends, who ſhall go and ſo forth, pray be plain in all theſe points; your direction is a *Mounſier Mercers au evine de la ruz* St. *Benvoiſt Fauxbourg*, St. *Germaine*

I have asked you but you forget it, I writ to you in my firſt Letters to Mr. *Bradſhaw* about the 100 *l.* I doubt I muſt have more ere long, but you ſhall have ſix weeks time for it. What you writ here concerning helping my ſelf to money, one way which you mention is a tickliſh point, the man is of a Jealous humour, and if I ſhould do any thing ſhould look like ſelf-entereſt I ſhould

ſhould ſpoil all, you may be ſure I ſay all to him
imagine, but I muſt not ſeem to aime at but
let it come of it ſelf. Adieu, I am ſure I am tired.

MOnſieur *Pompone* came to Town laſt night, but I am of opinion ſtill, that I ought not to ſpeak to him again, till I hear more from *Coleman*, and that for many reaſons, drawn both from *Coleman*, and his own Letters, from obſervations of things here, and from ſome diſcourſe, as I had lately on the *Exchange* with the King of *England*'s Factor here. He is certainly one of the ſhrewdeſt dealing men that I know, and that makes me extreamly cloſe with him, pretending great ignorance in all ſorts of Commerce; but for all that his goodneſs to me (as he would have me believe it) flows ſo naturally from him, that we are never together as often as he can contrive it, he of himſelf to dine with me, which is a freedom you know not uſually taken by Merchants, and upon all little occaſions inviting me, but he enters with great ſeeming confidence and freedom into a Diſcourſe of the moſt myſterious points of our Trade, and how he came by it, for he would have me underſtand the Duke was not by him now: whether this be a wheedle of theirs upon him, or that he intended it as one upon me, I know not, but their backwardneſs makes me ſuſpect Monſieur *Rouvigny* has ſome underhand dealing, and that he may keep them here in expectation of it, and that he holds them in hand, that it is time enough to think of the Parliaments being diſſolved if that fails, and that the Duke will let nothing ſlip to ſecure the Parliament diſſolved, however for his own ſake; and at laſt, if all does fail, that which we ask, they think, is a ſure Card to make the King and us do what they liſt when nothing elſe will: Now methinks indeed in my humble judgement, I would not have the Duke fail them in this; I would have him puſh with all the vigour and force imaginable to diſſolve the Parliament, and I would have for on my conſcience without two or 300000 *l.* do it as with them, & then if he wou'd give me leave, methinks I could turn it inſtantly more to his advantage, by ſhewing them how little he wanted two or 300000 *l.* to help him in that or any thing elſe, and that now if they would come upon terms. Now what his deſign in this may be, God knows, but I am ſure if it be to pump me he ſhall loſe it, for I never diſcover more knowledge of any thing than a man of my converſe in

the World and Genius, which he is well acquainted with, muſt be, thought to have; or perhaps it may be that by the old friendſhip I have had with *Coleman*, he may think to ſecure him by me, and ſo if Trade grows naught on the other ſide for you, remember how Lord *Berkley* and Sir *Ellis Leighton* have always ſpoke of his behaviour between Duke *Lauderdale* and Lord *Arlington*, and how he, they ſay, hath attached himſelf to the latter ingratiate himſelf at leaſt with the Duke, or perhaps he may have a real intention of ſerving the Duke, if you pleaſe in charity and generoſity we will believe, but in prudence we will not truſt to, and therefore I continue the ſame *Ignoramus*; and the more full he is in his praiſes of the Duke, and in Diſcourſes of him, the King, and *Lauderdale*, and Lord Treaſurer; the leſs I either know the Duke his concerns, or any things elſe. Often we talk too of the *French* King and Monſieur *Louvy*, and of War and Peace, and in this Diſcourſe he told me the day before yeſterday, that he found the *French* King and his had great expectation of what Lord *Arlington* ſhould do for them, nay, that he believed, they might have ſome confidence in him or it, he wondered how they came to little things equally and fair between us, (without which nothing can laſt) we will being thereto led a little by intereſt, but much more by inclination) give them the preference and refuſal in all Bargains, but if not, we may then truly tell them we muſt endeavour to make our beſt Market; they know the advantage Fortune hath now more than ever put into our hands, by giving us the Scales to hold, wherein all *European* Commodities are to be weighed, and I hope then the Diſſolution of the Parliament, being compaſſed, the Duke will never ſuffer the King again to quit that; if this does not bring them to any thing you call reaſon I will give you my head; for I muſt tell you the *French* King is mightily divided at this very hour in his thoughts, and perhaps more agitated than ever he was in making any reſolution, having (or I am much miſtaken) one Boot on and ſought ſomething in him making him a little wearie of what is on already, and another thundering

The reſt not legible.

I Am heartily glad to hear by your Lady you will be return'd to *London* to receive this, which, I pray, loſe no time to ſhew his H. I wrote you word before you went that I thought I ſhould ſoon be in

in *England*, for I am confident they would have ſent me, but your going into *Flanders* (of which they had notice before you would have been croſs the Sea, I cannot imagine, but ſure I am they told me of it aſſoon as I came to the Army) I ſuppoſe may have hindred that, and retarded the propoſitions, which I have order to make his H. till now, for they have been much diſquieted about it, and I have had much ado to aſſure them, that I was confident there was nothing deſigned by it, to their prejudice, for that I was ſure the Duke was as much by inclination as intereſt diſpoſed to prefer their alliance and friendſhip to all others, and that they would take it for a certain rule, that if they were not wanting to themſelves, we ſhould never be wanting to them. The King here is certainly diſpoſed as much as can be for the intereſt of his H. but is wiſe and very cautious, however by theſe Propoſitions, which I have order to make to his H. and which are word for word as I took them from *Pere Ferriers* mouth, for I writ them down preſently, and ſhewed it to him afterwards, and keep it for my juſtification, that I writ no more than I was ordered, you will ſee that it now depends only upon his H. to conſider of a way, that will beſt ſecure his intereſts, and withal a good correſpondence with them here, for that we muſt always perſwade our ſelves in the thing they propoſe to themſelves by it, I ſay let but his H. conſider of that, and then what he would ask of them here in order to it, and I doubt not (God willing) if he will honour me with his inſtructions and commands, but I ſhall procure him any thing which in reaſon he can expect, either of Money or any thing elſe; if therefore his H. ſhall be pleaſed to think well of this, and proceed in it, I will meet you any where privately to receive his H. commands and inſtructions by you, or if he will I doubt not but I can put my ſelf in a private way to come for a night to receive his Orders my ſelf. I pray be very cautious that there be no ſuſpicion given of any thing of this by you, for the King is very ſcrupulous here even of ſome of his chiefeſt Miniſters, whom perhaps he may apprehend people have been, or at leaſt have endeavoured to be dealing with, and *Pere Ferrier* poſitively charged me to communicate it to no one, but the Biſhop of *Dublin*, of whom they have a good opinion, for he ſaid they would have to do in it with none but us, but I prevail'd at laſt that I might do it by you or Colonel *Talbot* in *England*, for that being they would not yet let me go my ſelf, and it was impoſſible, but I muſt imploy ſome bodie,

die, therefore I would not write to the *D.* and that I anſwered for you as for my ſelf, to which at laſt they conſented: I intended to have taken the libertie to have writ to his H. but this to you I think will do better; I pray you therefore preſent my moſt humble dutie to him and if I have done any thing amiſs in this, it is for want of judgment not of affection and dutie, and I am ſure of one thing, that if perchance our Counſels ſhould go another way, I have done nothing that can prejudice him, if they be not, but that this alliance ſhall be adjudged advantageous, I have had the good fortune to work my ſelf into ſuch an eſteem and opinion here with ſome of the ableſt to ſerve his H. that I am an honeſt man, that I dare promiſe my ſelf they will put confidence in me, and I ſhall be able to ſerve him, for to do which pray aſſure his H. with all humilitie, that I ſhall always be readie to venture my life and fortune.

Decemb: 15. 1674.

I *Am heartily glad to hear by your Lady you will be returned to* London *to receive This, which I pray loſe no time to ſhew his H. I wrote you word before you went, that I thought I ſhould ſoon be in* England. *For I am confident they would have ſent me; but your going into* Flanders (*of which they had notice before you could have croſt the Sea, how I cannot imagine, but ſure I am they told me of it as ſoon as I came to the Army*) *I ſuppoſe may have hindred that, and retarded the Propoſitions, which I have order to make his Highneſs, till now. For they have been much diſquieted about it, and I have had much ado to aſſure them that I was confident there was nothing deſign'd by it to their prejudice: For that I was ſure the Duke was as much by inclination as intereſt diſpos'd to preſer their alliance and friendſhip to all others; and that they ſhould take it for a certain Rule, That if they were not wanting to themſelves, we ſhould never be wanting to them.* "*The King here is certainly diſpos'd,* " *as much as can be, for the intereſt of his Highneſs, but is wiſe and very* " *cautious. However, by theſe Propoſitions, which I have order to make to* " *his Highneſs, (and which are word for word as I took them from Father* " Ferriere's *mouth, for I wrote them down preſently, and ſhewed it him* " *afterwards, and keep it for my Juſtification, that I wrote no more than* " *I was ordered*) *You will ſee that it only now depends upon his Highneſs* " *to conſider of a way that will beſt ſecure his intereſts, and withal a good* " *correſpondence with them here. For that we muſt always perſwade*

" *our*

" *our ſelves is the thing they propoſe to themſelves by it. I ſay, let but* " *his H. conſider of that, and then what he would ask of them here in or-* " *der to it, and I doubt not (God willing) if he will honour me with his* " *inſtructions and commands, but I ſhall procure him any thing which in* " *reaſon he can expect, either of Money or any thing elſe. If therefore his Highneſs ſhall be pleaſed to think well of this, and proceed in it, I will meet you any where privately, to receive his Highneſs commands and inſtructions by you; or, if he will, I doubt not but I can put my ſelf into a private way to come for a night to receive his Orders my ſelf. I pray be very cautious there be no ſuſpicion given of any thing of this with you; for the King is very ſcrupulous here, even of ſome of his chiefeſt Miniſters, whom perhaps he may apprehend people have been, or at leaſt have endeavoured to be dealing with. And Father* Ferriere *poſitively charged me to communicate it to no one living but the Biſhop of* Dublin, *of whom they have a good opinion. For he ſaid, they would have to do with none but us. But I prevail'd at laſt that I might do it by you, or Col:* Talbot *in* England. *For that being they would not yet let me go my ſelf, it was impoſſible but I muſt employ ſome bodie, and that I could not elſe write to the Duke, and that I anſwered for you as for my ſelf: to which at laſt they conſented. I intended to have taken the libertie to have wrote to his Highneſs; but this to you I think will do better. I pray therefore preſent my moſt humble dutie to Him; and if I have done any thing amiſs in this, it is for want of judgment, and not of affection and dutie. And I am ſure of one thing, that if perchance our counſels ſhould go another way, I have done nothing that can prejudice him. If they do not, but that this alliance ſhall be judged advantageous, I have had the good fortune to work my ſelf into ſuch an eſteem and opinion here, with ſome of the ableſt to ſerve his Highneſs, that I am an honeſt Man, That I dare promiſe my ſelf that they will put confidence in me, and I ſhall be able to ſerve him. For to do which, I pray aſſure his Highneſs with all humilitie, that I ſhall always be readie to venture my life and fortune.*

Paris, Decemb: 22. 1674.

I *Am ſorry to hear by your laſt, that you know ſo little of Lord* Arlington's *proceedings; for I judge, nay, am morally ſure, if the Duke be really ſo, that the Duke is juggled with and kept in the dark, and D.* Lauderdale, *and the Treaſurer too perhaps; for it is impoſſible but that the King muſt have known ſomething of what has been done at leaſt that*

he

he was upon his return before yours was writ, when the King's Factor here could tell me three or four days ago that he had a Letter from him, in which he told him he was upon his departure, and that he should not stay there above four or five days at most longer. I must confess Rouvigny *is much suspected by me, and the* French *King's backwardness in coming to the point, and other little circumstances which I observe, but cannot so well express, makes me believe he had an underhand dealing, which keeps thim in suspence.* "*I told you in my former that if the Duke had* "*power enough upon his own stock to carrie on the Trade, and compass* "*the Parliaments Dissolution, that it was my humble advice he should do* "*it upon any terms in the world; for that they would be glad to come in* "*Partners, after they see it was done upon any advantageous terms to* "*the Duke whatsoever: but if you find you cannot probably do it with-* "*out two or three hundred thousand pounds, you must resolve to give some* "*bodie some power to make Treatie, back'd with your Authoritie, and to* "*endeavour to colour the business, and shew them (as on my soul it is their* "*true interest) whatever projects other people may have put them on; for* "*they have so mean an opinion of the King, and do so little regard his* "*Word or Government, that you cannot imagine how they despise him and* "*all the Companie: And if the Duke shall suspend this too, and not pur-* "*sue it vigorously some way or other; that is, endeavour to do it himself,* "*if possible; if not, use such means as are proper to induce them to help* "*them: I say, if he does not, I really fear they will judge sloth and idle-* "*ness an Epidemical disease; and he tainted with it as well as the rest,* "*and consequently no more to be valued or depended on. I would there-* "*fore earnestly desire the Lord* Arundel *and* Coleman *seriously to consider* "*and advise with the Duke about it. The first without doubt, if upon* "*his own score and strength, would do his business in all respects: but if* "*that cannot be, we must endeavour to make the best Market we can with* "*the* French *King.*

This is my Opinion: if it be wrong, correct it, but pardon me. One Vardell, *a famous Man-midwife, (Author of the Book the Abbot sent you) was yesterday with me, and in short, offers me a set of Coach-horses, if I can prevail to get the Duke send for him over, and to be but by at the Dutchess her Labour, he hopes there will be no occasion to make use of him, nor any of his kind, nor does not ask a penny of Money; for he says, he desires only to be sent for, the noise of which will get him ten thousand pounds. I hear the Abbot* Rizzini *has writ for him to Mr.* De Fuy *and the Countess:*

teſs: if it can be compaſſed, I tell you what I ſhall get, let him look to what he ſhall get: Methinks the thing ſhould not be difficult, for help and advice cannot be amiſs; they may chuſe whether they will make uſe of him or no; and they cannot have him at a cheaper rate than for nothing.

Paris, Decemb: 16. 1674.

I Am extreamly glad you were ſatisfied with mine of the 15th, and that ſeems to be ſo, I am ſure there is nothing in the World I covet more than that he ſhould be ſo. I ſhall long for your next, and that the Parliament be diſſolved for then ſure we ſhall ſee what the King will do, though I believe he has not been ſo ſilent to his Factor here for I am confident he had Orders for ſomething two Poſts laſt, though for what I cannot poſſibly learn. On my word it behoves your Traders to beſtir themſelves now, for it is that which will cauſe enemies, and it is reſolution muſt do the buſineſs. I am glad you approve of my not ſeeing Pompone; *though I ſhould be glad to have ſomething to the purpoſe, to ſee him withal.* Methinks *I could talk otherwiſe if my **** were rais'd but a little, which it would be to ſome purpoſe if the diſſolution of the Parliament were compaſs'd. On my word, I ſee not that things go ſo bad, but that ſuch a buſineſs would make them very reaſonable men. My Lord* Duras *is coming to you, you know I have always loved him, and am much his Servant, whether he makes me ſuch a return I know not; he is moſt extraordinarily outwardly civil to me, that his inwards is not ſo I have ſome reaſon to doubt. I only ask you to look that he does the Duke no prejudice. We have had here the ſame Story of my Lord* Arlington's *refuſal at the* Hague, *that you had in* London. *Pray ſee what you can do for the Man-midwife; he would be a great help to me; it goes to my heart to preſs you thus always for Mony. I aſſure you I ſpend not a Shilling, that I think the Duke's Service does not require, but yet I cannot help it; Mony goes like the Devil. Once more pray look to* Duras, *for I am confident he would do both of us a prejudice if he could: As to the quarter of* 100000 l. *I know not what you call* reaſonable conditions, *let me know if you pleaſe, what you mean by yours, but I mean for the procuring the diſſolution of, or facilitating of it; and then I aſſure you that I am very ſorry for that is the ſubject of it. For it is as publick as his being here, and ſcandalizes many good people, as alſo her Mother's being with child; this appeaſe for God's ſake: Let us be vertuous if we can; but if*

we cannot, let us not to satisfie their vanitie, lose our wit quite, but be wise and cautious. I swear upon my soul, the reputation of vertue, with that of his truth, will do him more good than ten millions.

Jan: 19. 1675.

I Think I must state the case in Writing again, and give it Pompone *to shew Fr: K: I doubt the Bishop of* Dublin's *sending to* Louvoy's *Father: For you must know that the Bishop of* Dublin *is the lying'st Rogue in the World, he has done our business no good, for he speaks with confidence, and makes them believe he is the Man in the world with the* Duke, *and tells them whatever he pleases, which must make them have a mean opinion of the Duke; or if they do or do not absolutely believe him, it must make them the more diffident of Sir* William Throgmorton: *The truth is, I wonder* Pompone *doth so well with Sir* W: Throg: *as he doth, considering that the Bishop of* Dublin *speaks the contrarie with as much authoritie as appears to them, as Sir* W: Th: *does what he says. I told you all that was between him and* Louvoy *his Father six Weeks ago, for I trace him every where; and surely never Man made falshood, lying and knaverie so much his business as he does: I had yours of the 4th, and if I think it as proper, after a nights consideration, as I do yet, I may french it to* Pompone *next time I see him, for I like it very well. Why should you not get* Rouvigny *write to* Pompone *the discourse* Coleman *had with him, and his liking of it? It would help Sir* W: Th: *mightily, at least it would give him some more credit.* "*I am overjoy'd* "*to hear what you say about dissolving the Parliament, though* 300000 *l:* "*should not be compass'd, not that it shall make me a jot the less active,* "*or sollicitous for it; for I am, I assure you, of their opinion, as much as* "*is possible, that nothing will settle businesses lastingly, like joining the* "*Fr: King's and the Duke's interests together. And when I told you* "*there might be an advantage made by gaining the Parliament to be* "*dissolved without* 300000 *l: I did not mean the French King, but only that that would make these* "*about the French King (seeing the power the Duke has) a little more* "*reasonable, and that then they will come with the Duke to terms of ac-* "*commodation more equal than now they will; and let us think or propose* "*what we please, it is certain that nothing but a just ballance of things* "*can keep their interests long linked, and therefore I judged it for the* "*Duke's advantage by such an action, to gain that reputation with them* "*as shall shew them their benefit of coming to such an accommodation with*

" with him, which then may keep their amitie link'd faſt for all their lives. I never was blinder nor wearier in my life. So adieu. I could not help the 100 *l. Bill for* * * * * * * * * *Pray tell* Mauſon *I have done his* * * * * *as he deſired. He is with my Wife, but but I cannot write to him this Poſt.*

February 6th: 1674.

I Account my ſelf moſt extraordinary unhappy that my illneſs hath hindred me from ſeeing Mounſieur *Pompone*, ſince buſineſſes go ſo with Lord *Arlington* as they do. I aſſure you if it had been nothing but the hazard of my Life lain at ſtake, I ſhould have ventured it to have given you an Anſwer this Poſt, but it would have allarm'd all the World to ſee one go out in ſuch a condition; by the next Poſt however I promiſe you an Anſwer, for I will either ſpeak or write to him. If *Rouvigny* hath but in any meaſure done his part, I promiſe you I will do mine: And *if the French King will do nothing, I know not how to help it; but the truth is, he hath ſo mean an opinion of the King and all his Partners, that I doubt he thinks ſcarce any thing they can do worth* 300000 *l. It muſt be therefore, I believe, ſomething immediately from the* Duke *that I muſt tell him, that will perſwade him to hope for better things when he ſhall govern.* Adieu. I can ſay no more.

Superſcribed, *To Edward Coleman Eſq; Secretary to her Royal Highneſs.*

Poſtſcript.

This is Abbot *Mountague*'s Letter, which ſhould have come the laſt Poſt.

Tranſcribed, 8 *November* 78.
Ed: Dering.

Paris, Feb: 9.

T*Hrockmorton* was yeſterday to ſpeak with *Pompone*, whom he found allarm'd by *Ruvigny*, for the King's Reſolution about the Parliament; he had told him the greateſt part of the ſtorie of the Lord Treaſurer, concerning the Lord *Arlington*, though he ſaid he took *Throckmorton*'s coming to him very kindly, and heard him ſpeak with great attention; which opportunitie *Throckmorton* made the beſt uſe he could of to preſs the thing: He told him, that the Duke had hitherto done his utmoſt endeavours to hinder the reſolution of the Parliament, and to procure a Diſſolution of it; That

he had been in great expectation of the *French* King's assistance, in which if he had but contributed in any measure, the thing might have been done six months since. Indeed *Throckmorton* has no orders from the Duke to ask any thing yet; but yet however *Throckmorton* knew the Affairs a little, and that he had great reason to believe the Duke would not be able to resist the Parliament any longer, if he were not very speedily assisted by the *French* King. That the Parliament was certainly very opposite to both their interests, but irreparably to that of the *French* King's; for that, as he had told him before, the Duke, if he would have quitted the *French* King, might have made good conditions for himself, and so he shall yet when he pleases, with the Parliament; but that for the *French* King he must expect no such thing, for that infallibly the Parliament would engage the King, the very first moment, to join in War with *Spain*, *Emperor*, *Holland*, Prince of *Orange*, and *Spanish* Governour in *Flanders* against him; that he must not judge of the power of the King's Play now, by what he played for him whilst the Lord *Arlington* was Trumps, and therefore believe, it, would not be more against him if the Lord *Arlington* should continue Trumps with the Parliament; for that I assured him it would be most powerful, and carried against him with great animositie and heat; as on the other side, if Trumps should be changed by the *French* King's help, and the Duke taken for Lord *Arlington* at the Parliament, he might promise himself somewhat a warmer and usefuller assistance; that he had made him discourses to this purpose heretofore; that he had thought to have quite desisted, finding so little encouragement, and fear of being thought importunate; but that the War not now just upon new shuffling of the Cards, should warn him once more, but that now he had done, for he had discharged his conscience in doing his utmost for the Common good; and if God did not see fit to bless his endeavours with success, he would sit down quietly, though never contentedly, before that the Catholicks and his interest should be thus abandoned, though there were no other interest of the Duke's or the *French* King's in it. And there I began to tickle *Pompone* upon that point; in which you must know he doth much - - - - - himself. That *Throckmorton* needed not to say any more to clear himself from any suspicion of private designs or interests in it, as from imposing any thing upon them, for that themselves knew he never did, nor never would benefit a shilling by them; and that

that the event of things had always ſhewed them that his intelligence was right, and his advice ſound.

Pompone began to anſwer with a confirmation of the concluſion of his Diſcourſe, and to'd him that the King had the ſame opinion of him that he could wiſh, *&c.* but came to his old [what Remedy ?] again: for that *Throckmorton* had asked three, four, or five hundred thouſand pounds; a thing unpoſſible to be compaſſed. *Throckmorton* told him, that was a miſtake, for that half of the latter perhaps might do it; and then told him the ſubſtance of *Coleman*'s Letter of the 21th paſt, as to time, and other circumſtances too; but *Throckmorton* to'd him, that after all this, if there were 500000 *l.* or double, whether he thought in his conſcience it were any better parting with it for the *French* King, than to have the Parliament join with *Holland*, &c. And whether he believed that double and treble that would not ſoon be ſet a flying, in caſe of a War, ſuppoſing theſe circumſtances? Then he cried, *Ouy par Dieu.* Then Sir, ſaid the other, Look to it, for it will certainly be. Then he came to it again, and ſaid, that the Duke ſaid to *Ruvigni*, that notwithſtanding he alwayes told him the King had ſaid fre and friendly things on the *French* King's behalf. I anſwered, as you may gueſs, to that; but ſuſpecting by all this, that *Ruvigni* might be his Creature, and that he was afraid he might be excluded in this buſineſs, *Throckmorton* told him, you may imagine, that I bear *Ruvigni* no good will. I proteſt to you the contrary; and to ſhew you how little that is in my thoughts, though I muſt confeſs I think I cou'd put them in a ſhorter way of doing it; Give *Ruvigni* but a ſufficient power to do it, and a ſtrict Command to execute it, and I deſire never to know it, nor will I trouble you any more to enquire after it; and ſhall think my ſelf ſufficiently happy if I have in any wiſe forwarded the thing for the doing of it effectually, which is the only aim I have, and therefore cared not by whom it was done.

had promiſed *Throckmorton*, he would tell the *French* King the firſt opportunity all his diſcourſe, and that he would do it with kindneſs, and deſired *Throckmorton* to come again the beginning of the Week, and he would tell him the King's Anſwer. This is all *Throckmorton* could do. And if they are blind or mad, you muſt have patience. But ſure ſomething they will do, and let it be what it will, or how it will, if the Duke can do his buſineſs by it, pray let him not reject it. His turning 300000 *l.* into 400000, makes

me

me believe they intend to do ſomething. I muſt confeſs I ſhall be overjoyed to ſee it to confirm the Duke: for if he give ground, *Arlington* and the Parliament have no bounds - - - - You muſt imagine *Throckmorton* enlarged upon theſe heads. They had ſome diſcourſe of *Coleman* too, who *Pompone* ſaid he heard was a Man of Parts, &c. *Throckmorton* replied to that, what I think he could have wiſhed himſelf had been ſaid.

I had yours of the 25th juſt now: If you cannot read mine better than I do yours, which is ſoil'd one half, your Paper blots ſo, I do not wonder that you underſtand not what I would have you get *Ruvigny* to write. I would have nothing more than what he hath done. He hath done his part well; nor would I have him ſay any thing about the Biſhop of *Dublin*, though he is the greateſt Knave alive, for fear of miſtakes; and I know you cannot explain your ſelf clearly to *Ruvigny* in that point.

The King's Factor is much diſcontented againſt *Pompone*, *Louvoy*, and in fine all the reſt. He gave me yeſterday great ſigns of it, and pretty touches too againſt Duke *Lauderdale*. The *French* King hath cleared the buſineſs again with *Sueden*, and they are reſolved again to act, you know (I ſuppoſe) what - - - rub in the way. They offer to furniſh them with 24000 Men in the Spring, provided they will pay them three months now; which I think is almoſt a Bargain. How this may work as to ſome other Affairs you know of, I cannot tell; but I think, however, this ſhould be no hindrance. *Adieu.* I am almoſt tired to death. Pray get better Paper, and be more careful, for I cannot read half your Letter.

Superſcribed,

To Mrs. Coleman.

Tranſcribed *Novemb:* 8. 1678.
Ed: Dering.

February *the* 13.

I *Told you laſt Poſt, how* Throckmorton *had diſpoſed* Pompone *to ſpeak to the* French *King, and how they were agreed, that* Throckmorton *ſhould come again, to know the* French *King's Anſwer; which yeſterday he did, and* Pompone *told him, that the* French *King had ordered him to write to* Rouvigny *effectually on this concern; that was, that* Rouvigny *ſhould joyn that he ſhould take Meaſures and*

and directions from the Duke; that he ſhould conſult with him about the means to prevent the Parliament, and get the Parliament diſſolved; and that all things that were poſſible to be done on the French *King's ſide, to diſſolve the Parliament, ſhould be done.* Throckmorton *told him this would do very well; that he was reſolved to keep his word, for that he would not be inquiſitive to know the other particulars, which he hoped however there were, or elſe they did nothing; that he was extreamly glad it was put into* Rouvigny *his hand, for that he believed him a good man, and an able man; that his late experience too, had taught him, that he would the better know how to behave himſelf among ſo many knaves; that he had now only two things to recommend to him, ſtrongly to inculcate unto* Rouvigny, *that is (ſecreſie and promptneſs) for that* Throckmorton *did not know, whether all that he had ſaid, and which was however as much as could be ſaid to it, had evinc'd him that the thing did preſs as much as it did, but he did aſſure him that if either of theſe were wanting, or if he continued beating the buſh, the buſineſs would be loſt: that for* Throckmorton's *part, he had no other deſign but the common good, &c. he took him and embraced him, and told him the* French *King was very ſenſible of that, and gave all the imaginable to what he ſaid; and therefore begun now, and would do all that was poſſible in his power, and as the urgencie of the affairs required. This is all* Throckmorton *for his life could do in this buſineſs, and perhaps as much too, as any other could have done in his circumſtances: For I am confident he omitted nothing that could preſs him, as you may ſee by his Papers, when the young Gentlewoman comes; what the ſucceſs of this may be, God*

and is certain that Louvy, *who hath hitherto been againſt him, and for war is now ſo much turned again, hearing ſome diſgrace by him, that it is believed he will carry the* French *King to imbrace Peace preſently upon any terms. Now if this were ſo, and* Louvy *a wiſe man, it were the faireſt way for us in all the world; for nothing (it is certain) would do us more kindneſs, than to ſee the Parliament diſſolved. But if* Louvy *be a fool and a beaſt, who can aſſure us of their patience, for this way and not call'd to his paſſion of fear, and let any underhand little Engineer Write to you on the whole or in part, this is all I apprehend; for unleſs this be an underhand way of his. I am confident there is nothing*

and

and then we are well enough; for let the French *King beat about as he pleaseth now, he shall be forced at last to come to the Duke, and his terms too; and therefore I am clearly, with all submission, in my poor judgment, for this; That if the* French *King does not help vigorously to gain the Parliament dissolved, that then the Duke should not be against the Parliaments coming; for I think it is not morally probable, that the Duke will be better armed against the Parliament three or four Months hence, than he is now: but on the contrary, six Months hence, in the first place, the Parliament will be more incensed and violent against him than now; for it is certain, they all take it for granted, that he does his possible for the Parliaments dissolution. It's a prejudice to which the longer he is about, and cannot comply it in his heart, the more it will render the Parliament audacious, mean and despised by him: for it is clear, that whilst the Duke is at shall he, he loses ground Peace yet, and the* French *King will not have made terms of Peace for all his dodging. Now when the Parliament shall begin to play his prank, the* French *King shall without doubt assist the Duke with all he can in the world against the Parliament. But who will ensure that the* French *King and Peace will not be friends eight or nine months hence? and if so, I am sure the* French *King says then, Fight Dog fight Bear, what can the Duke clear himself from the Parliament? let him but shew as much resolution in his mind, as he has often done valour in his person, and not be startled or led away by Knaves, or by mens fearful councels, as he has too many about him of the one and other sorts, who mind themselves more than his service, and what can hurt him? I wish I had ten thousand lives, and I would stake them all for him, onely that a* Throckmorton *and* Coleman *may go to pot, and it may not do so well for the Catholicks and his at first, but for the ---- God's will be done; and for the other, really I cannot well pity some of them they having been so base and mean in his concern and their own as they have been. Let them smart, it will turn their good. I think if the Duke thought well of it, if* Coleman *speak to* Rouvigny *upon this now, and that he urged him to the utmost in it, about* 300000 *l. it would not be amiss, and then* Coleman *will find what is not: for* Throckmorton *has done what he could here, except he has new matter: for it is clear that this which* Pompone *told* Throckmorton *is only either a putting him off civilly, and that they intend to continue to dodge as they have given* Rouvigny *Orders; and resolve to act only by him;*

him; ſuppoſe which you will, I think it will be neceſſary to Coleman *thus to deal with* Rouvigny, *that is, openly and home: for if they intend to do any thing, it will certainly be by* Rouvigny; *and if they intend to do nothing, you will by his ſhuffling diſcover it. I expected what you told me in your laſt from them both; no doubt they will court the Parliament or the Devil, if they think him like to be uppermoſt: but let the Duke conſider of it accordingly the Duke nor* Rouvigny *truſt the King with more than needs be: you know he is not good at keeping Secrets.*

Dated *February* le 20, 75.

I Am not at all ſurprized at what I hear of Lord Treaſurer and Lord Lauderdail, *but ſhould have been much, had they done otherwiſe than they have done: let us remember Dr.* Creyton's *Cat, and we never will confide in them, nor rely ſo much on them, as that any thing they can do ſhall be able to diſmay us; and I hope the Duke is not at all, by what has hapned yet.* Throckmorton *has done what has bin in his power with* Pompone; *the whole buſineſs, as he hath told you in his two former Letters, is put into* Rouvigny *his hands, and truly as much as appeared to Sir* William Throckmorton, *with auſpicious circumſtances enough; it is therefore now between the Duke and* Rouvigny, *for it ſeems to* Throckmorton, *that the thing muſt be done by* Throckmorton, *or that they have not a deſign of doing it at all: and if it ſhould happen to be the later, for Jeſus ſake be not dejected at it, but on the contrary encourage and comfort the Duke all you can; for on my ſoul and conſcience, without affecting the Preacher, I dare confidently utter my opinion, that God intends it for his good, and that if he pleaſes but now to make uſe of thoſe rare vertues of courage and conſtancy with which Heaven has indued him, all this will turn to his glory and advantage. My humble opinion in this caſe then, if I might give it, that if the King of* France *ſhall ſtill continue to dodge, and give the Duke no vigorous aſſiſtance for diſſolving the Parliament, that then the Duke ſhall not continue to ſhuffle between the Parliament diſſolved, and the Parliament (as I have given you my reaſons in my former Letters) but in God's name let the Parliament proceed and proſecute his Suit; it is true, this is not the way one would have choſen, if the* French *King would have been perſwaded to underſtand his own intereſt; but if that cannot be, what great prejudice can accrew to the Duke by the Parliament? none in the world*

say I, if he pleases but with magnanimity and scorn to shake off those little wretches and their counsels, whom he hath with too much patience hitherto suffered to bait him continually to stoop and sneak to the Parliament; and will resolve never to receive them again that have once betrayed him; but on the other side put on a countenance, but above all, a mind full of noble and vertuous resolution and courage, which will make him look boldly upon his worst, and make good use of his best fortune; I say, if he pleases but to do this, and besides shew all by the regulation of his Family as the vertuous conduct of his own person, how much he abhors and detests the debauchery of the King's House, which has made it so odious to all the Nation and the world, he will find that he will *have all the wise, sober, good people, and such as are worth having, as well Protestants as Catholicks on his side; and he shall live to see Lord Treasurer, and D. of* Lauderdail, *and Lord* Arlington, *and all the rest of that crue, knock themselves to pieces with the Parliament; and his resolution and courage, and vertuous behaviour, will not only keep the Parliament at a bay, but will keep him also in his bounds too. For it is by the King his stooping to the Parliament, the prejudice and disreputation will in great measure redound upon the Duke, that the Duke is to apprehend damage from; now this the Duke his resolution will in great measure prevent, by keeping the Parliament in some sort within his limits; and it will over and above, when Lord* Arlington, *and Lord Treasurer, and D. of* Lauderdail *shall have bruised one another, and be at last all crusht by the Parliament, necessitate the King to throw himself into the Duke's Arms, who by that time will not only be strong in reputation, but in reality too, by the conjunction with him of all and generous men of whatsoever Party, with which then he shall usefully be able to serve the King and himself; for be not perswaded that the Protestants and Catholicks make a difference in this point, but between such as are Rogues, and design a Faction. And to shew you that this opinion is not only speculative, but that I can give you a proof, that the Duke's cause by what is hapned yet, is not at all lost or deemed desperate in the opinion of men; if you find that the Duke is disposed to take this course, and this way defend his Birthright, his Honour, and his Conscience all together, I will then make you a Proposition of a number of persons, who you will not doubt have honour and courage by this their resolution, and I assure you are reckoned amongst the sobereſt and wiſeſt part of the*

Na-

Nation, moſt Proteſtants, or are at leaſt in ſhew, and four thouſand or five thouſand pounds a year apiece, who ask or expect no reward or Offices, but only ask that the Duke will give them aſſurance, that he will not be perſwaded hereafter to abandon his own intereſt and them, and they will give him all the aſſurance on their ſides desire, *that themſelves and their fortunes ſhall ſink and ſwim with him, and theſe are ſuch as I dare aſſure ſhall perform their promiſe, and not do as Lord Treaſurer, and D. of* Lauderdail; *and ſome of them perhaps have good intereſt with the Parliament too, that is, are of the ſame Families*

we are of his Cabal, but I am engaged upon my honour not to diſcover them, till I know the Duke will take that courſe that they may be uſeful to him, for they are unwilling (as you will believe they have reaſon) to expoſe themſelves and fortunes, and do the Duke no ſervice neither: for to deal plainly with you, they are ſo afraid of ſome that the Duke has about him, who they ſay betray him, and would do them ſo too, that they by no means dare diſcover themſelves what is in their hearts, they are for the Duke's cauſe and his diſpoſition, which keeps multitudes of others in the ſame ſuſpence ſay they, for they all avow that it is not his being for the Catholicks ſtartles them; they ask but the Duke to be reſolved to continue governing himſelf with vertue and moderation, to throw off ſuch people as they ſay are about him and betray him, and then give them his word, and they will ſtick by him againſt Lord Arlington, *and Lord Treaſurer, and* Lauderdail, *and the Parliament, and who he pleaſes. I do not doubt but the Duke is courted now by* the Lord *Arlington* his Party, and ſome of the Parliaments too, but if ever he receives any that have betrayed, he will go nigh to run the King his fortune, that is, always abuſed by Knaves, when they ſee it for their purpoſe, and never truſted nor relied on by honeſt men. I had yours of the Fourth juſt now. Mr. *Boteman* ſets out on Sunday.

A Paper intituled INSTRUCTIONS.

SEeing that his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty was angry that I went to *England*, but that he did not ſhew it for fear of giving any umbrage, and that for the ſame reaſon he hath not ſpoken with me, yet he hath ſince prayed me to aſſure his Highneſs, of ſome ſecret way that his Majeſty doth take his part in all intereſts, and will ſerve him to the utmoſt of his power; and that he is ſtrongly perſwaded that my Lord *Arlington* is not in the eſteem of his Majeſty, nor in that

of his Highneſs, although that ſome do labour to perſwade him to it he ſaith, *The re-aſſembling of this Parliament will not be profitable for the King or for his Royal Highneſs, although my Lord* Arlington *will endeavour to uphold it; if therefore his Royal Highneſs ſhall judge it neceſſary to have another Parliament, he will aſſiſt him with Money to have ſuch an one and as he ſhall deſire; and prayeth him to make his propoſals thereupon, or upon any other thing that he ſhall judge either needful or profitable, being reſolved to do all things poſſible for his ſervice.* The Father hath told me of the Knavery of Monſieur *de Seſſaube*, and of the folly of ſome others of ours; but notwithſtanding all that, and alſo though his Majeſty knoweth very well, that his Highneſs hath ſent into *Flanders*, which in truth giveth him a little umbrage, notwithſtanding his Majeſty is reſolved to confide intirely in his Highneſs, and to afford him all imaginable aſſiſtance; but above all, he prayeth his Highneſs that he will endeavour by all ways and means to confirm a perfect intelligence with his Brother; he told me moreover, that if Monſieur *de Rouvigny* was not a Man to your liking, nor ſuch a one upon whom you may wholly rely, that if his Highneſs would give me the leaſt order to advertiſe his Majeſty thereof, he would endeavour to ſend over another perſon.

The following LETTERS *were writ by Cardinal* Norfolk *to Mr.* Coleman.

Rome, January 4: 76.

SIR,

I Received your Two this Week, one of 19 *November*, by your Friends way here, th' other without date, by Sir *H: Tichb.* I am glad of the Prorogation, ſo that the Parliament will not now in haſt trouble you again or others; and if finally the King will reſolve well, and keep cloſe to it, all may yet do well; if not, God have mercy on ye. I wrote laſt Week, as I incloſe now another to the ſame, and aſſure the Duke I both can and will ſerve him and his faithfully to good purpoſe, having already for the ſhort time put all in excellent way, of which more hereafter in due time, I having now very little, for ſo much I have to do. Mr. *Hayes* at *Arundel*-houſe can tell you ſomething particularly of my condition here, time giving onely leiſure to add, I am *Yours as you know.*

Rome

Rome, 8 *Feb.* Stilo Novo, 76.

SIR,

I Suppoſe you received my Anſwer to your received ſince my being here, and the Duke my Anſwer unto his by Sir *H. Tich.* And you may be ſure, that the Pope will do all he can to ſerve the Duke in all occaſions, as I can aſſuredly alſo anſwer for Cardinal *Norfolk* both for his affection and duty, hoping before very long to ſhew it by deeds, in a due time and proportion. I have in the interim written pretty full to Mr. *Hayes* (at my Brothers as you know) to confer with you, what my time is too ſhort to repeat about the old buſineſs, in which the *Portugueſe* would get the Queen to give Cardinal *Norfolk* his place to a *Portugueſe*, under ſeveral ſpecious pretexts, as ſome of your Friends give out here, will ſpeedily be done; and if the King had not at firſt hindered, would have been done by the Queen. Now therefore you are deſired to deal with the Duke, that he ſpeak privately and efficaciouſly with the King, to hinder it on all ſcores, both at preſent or at any time hereafter, *&c.* as Mr. *Hayes* can tell you.

Another buſineſs is, that Cardinal *Norfolk* being written unto from *Paris* by the Prince *William* of *Furſtenburgh*'s Brother, to move the Pope's and others credits with the Emperour for that Prince's Liberty; it's thought good (if the Duke will pleaſe) to deſire the King to ſend his Command to his late Envoy now with the Emperour, to joyn his endeavour with thoſe of the Pope's Miniſter now at the Emperour, for the Liberty of the ſaid Prince *William*, and alſo for the Peace; and that Cardinal *Norfolk* may know from you or others ſecurely, that the King hath ſent ſuch expreſs Orders to his Envoy, now with the Emperour; of which I will accordingly acquaint the Pope: who in the interim will ſend Order there, to joyn with the King's Envoy's endeavours for that and the Peace. In the ſame Order the King may alſo pleaſe to command his ſaid Envoy, to joyn his endeavours with another, who will quickly be ſent by the Pope for the Peace; as alſo the like is deſired be ſent to my Lord *Barkley*, *Temple*, *& jenkns*, to joyn with the Popes Miniſter for the Peace; pleaſe to let me know of all fully, that I may accordingly diſpoſe all here for the beſt, that I may likewiſe my ſelf write by the Pope's Miniſter to my Lord *Barkley* & the reſt about it. Henceforth, pleaſe to direct yours to me thus, *A Monſieu Monſieur* Cahmuont, *commis du general des Poſtes, en ſon Office à* Bruxells, *pour*

faire

faire tenir à Monſieur Thomas Grane; and with this Superſcription he will ſend them me ſafe, as I have ordered him, and will alſo ſend mine to you ſafe and with leſs expence, putting mine to you on my account as far as *Bruxels*; and if you think it ſafeſt and quickeſt (as I think it may be) he can direct mine to you by my good Friend Mr. *Cook*'s way, who you know. I ſhould have told you, that although the *French* Ambaſſadour nor his Brother the Cardinal, do neither receive or give any Viſit, or converſe with any of the Cardinals of the laſt Promotion, yet the ſaid Cardinal hath ſent many excuſes and complements to me, how ſorry he is, that he cannot at preſent viſit and confer with me, as he doth mightily deſire, *&c.* And I have as often ſent the like complements to him; and finally the other night at a great Aſſembly at the Queen of *Sweden* (who often in publick ſpeaks mighty well of *England* and our Nation) her Majeſtie ſpoke to me (*ex abrupto*) in *French*, (although ſhe uſed alwayes before in *Italian*) and preſently called on the Cardinal of *Eſtré* (who was there with Fifteen Cardinals more) to hear how well I ſpoke *French* (as ſhe ſaid) better than herſelf, and he approaching to her Majeſtie and me, who were alone talking, could not well but ſpeak to us both, which when he did to me, I anſwered accordingly, and preſently the Queen left us alone, ſo that I then began to talk to him of the buſineſs you know, of which he ſaid much, and I anſwered as much, hoping that after the furie will be paſt, theſe Preliminaries may conduce to a good effect, as is wiſhed by

Pray acquaint your Maſter and Mr. Hayes, *and Mr.* Vincent *alſo.* *You know who*

SIR,

THE Bearer hereof being heretofore known to you, and having relation to me, will not need many long Lines to deſire you to believe him in what he can much better inform you, than my Letters at this diſtance; and if between this and September *you have any thing more particular to inform him, or to acquaint me by him, he will about that time be returning hither; and in whatſoever may concern your Maſter or Miſtreſs, he will be moſt faithful and active; as likewiſe for your ſelf, whilſt I need not reaſſure you of the ſame on my part, being*

Yours as you know, C. of Norfolke.

Rome,

Rome, March 1. 76.

SIR,

Lect. pro Rege. TIme being extraordinary short with me, I cannot often answer yours, but ordered Mr Leybourn my Auditor to supply. Now to your four last; unto the first I understand the Duke had mine, and was pleased to say he would answer; however I wrote again unto him by Mr. Conne, who I sent hence some days past, and I do now again, this Post, to him and the Dutches (whose Answer to mine which you sent me I acknowledge) and desire their Pictures. I send them as usually to the Portugal Ambassador, but if you would have them sent to you, advise me that I may do accordingly: what you write of the Archbishop of Dublin, his apparent Victory at Rome against his Adversarie is quite the contrary; for the Archbishop of Dublin is not in esteem here, for that nor his other practices there, which are very ill relished; neither did Cardinal Norfolk ever write or trouble the Duke with those affairs which were more out of Faction than otherwise, and Cardinal Norfolk took order long since, that no proceeding should be in it before his Arrival, that all might be well examined; and those unto whom it was committed, do much approve of the Archbishops Adversaries Books. I wonder Mr. Sheldon maketh so much noise in that affair also, having had no such Commission to trouble himself or others in it, and if (as you say) he came thither chiefly about that business, he might more quietly return as wise, and to as much purpose as he came; thus much in short to your two first and two last which contain the same: And let the Duke be assured Cardinal Norfolk will serve him and all the Catholicks whether they will or no, although the Archbishop of Dublin and his Friends are enough to enflame all, if their malice were not well known at Rome, and by Cardinal Altieri, Fra: Barberin, and many others; But I dare answer Cardinal Norfolk is of no Faction, but against the Factious, who are in great number but cannot prevail in iniquitatibus suis. The Secretarie of the Dutchess's Cypher is not large enough, besides hath not the Alphabetical Letters (necessary to make words) and I find some numbers in his Letters which are not in the Cypher, pray desire him to amplifie it accordingly. The Archbishop of Dublin wrote hither to Cardinal Altieri a very foolish, ridiculous, malicious Letter against Cardinal Fra: Barberin, as he hath often other such like and worse ones to others of manifest falsities, which I my self have seen and have actually, written

by

by his own hand; beſides his forging falſe Letters is a conſtant old cuſtom of his. I will ſay no more at preſent, leſt I ſhould ſay too much; but this I dare ſay, that if the Duke make uſe of him or ſhew him his favour, he will much diſgrace himſelf and his Cauſe, and put both Engliſh *and* Iriſh *Catholicks in great diviſion, which will be the eaſieſt way for the Proteſtants to deſtroy them, and every one wonders how Mr.* Sheldon *ſhould be of late ſo great a Protector and friend of the Archbiſhop of* Dublin, *when to my knowledge (and many others) he was quite the contrarie (as he told me) not long before the Archbiſhop pretending to Mr.* Sheldon's *place about the Dutcheſs, but it appeareth that Mr.* Sheldon *and his Confederates by their late violent bending for the Archbiſhop and his ways againſt the other is more out of Faction than zeal: However let not the Duke be troubled, Cardinal* Norfolk *will take care all be done according to Juſtice, let it be for whom it will,* Fiat Juſtitia & pereat Mundus. *But now I muſt tell you, I cannot but be ſorry to underſtand (by Witneſſes which I can produce) that ſome chief of Mr.* Sheldon's *Confederates have informed that the Duke's affection is ſo much and only for thoſe and the Confederates of the* French *King's Confeſſor, That he abſolutely declared it, and ſaid he would be ſerved by them only, which if ſo* Vincent de Torre, *and Cardinal* Norfolk's *Confederates may ſhut up their Shop and Traffick elſewhere, and I ſhould be glad to know it, to provide accordingly, for although it is moſt clear and true what I ſaid often in* England, *That if Cardinal* Norfolk *had not ſent* Fa: White *in Poſt haſte from* Rome *where the Dutcheſs was then, and that he and another of his Confederates had not ſtoutly reſiſted and concluſively argued againſt the potent Confrater of the* French *King's Confeſſor, with the Dutcheſs, that that Dutcheſs and none elſe as th' other would have, (to put off the concluding of this Dutcheſs) was fitting, and to be had for the Duke, the whole buſineſs (which was then broken off) would have been ſpoiled and broken off for ever; but Cardinal* Norfolk *having notice from* Paris *at firſt of the breaking off of the other Treaty, a particular Friend of his there thought firſt of that Dutcheſs, which (God be praiſed) is, and ſpoke to Lord* Peterb. *of it,* &c. *(of all which the ſaid Lord* Peterb. *can tell you) and at the ſame time Cardinal* Norfolk *wrote to ſeveral at* Rome *about it, and poſted the abovenamed Fa.* White *with full Inſtructions to employ all his little Wits and thoſe of his Confederates (whoſe Houſe joyneth to that of the Dutcheſs) to act all poſſible, as they did to the right purpoſe, and* nolens volens *the juggling of others,)*

argued

argued so hotly and well that it was concluded quite contrary to the intention and expectation of the Juggler's; My Lord Peterb. *can tell you something of it, and I can much more; but since the business is done it's no matter, I did it not to pick thanks, or for recompence to me or mine, but to serve the Duke and Catholick Religion in* England, *yet I must tell you that not only Cardinal* Norfolk, *but his also are as able to serve the Duke and Catholick Religion in* England *as any whosoever, and both are in a greater power and esteem with the Pope and Cardinal* Altieri, *and General, all of his sort, and at* Rome *and* Spain *than any whoever, and if the Pope lives some considerable time (as it's likely) he will make a third, like Cardinal* Norfolk *alive in great Esteem, Birth, Worth,* &c. *I will say no more, but as Cardinal* Norfolk *hath served the Duke long since in* Flanders *and* England *when he least thought of it, and yet knoweth not off, so as he did it meerly out of affection and dutie, he will in all times and places he can continue the same. Yet Cardinal* Norfolk *is not ignorant of many ill Offices several others (whom God forgive) endeavoured to do Cardinal* Norfolk *with the Duke and Dutchess, and also with the King and Queen for their factious ends; however* Qui ambulat simpliciter, ambulat confidenter, *as Cardinal* Norfolk *always did, those malicious endeavours being but small flea-bitings, although they endeavoured the like also with the Pope, Cardinal* Altieri, Barbarin, *and all others they could at* Rome, sed nihil occultum quod non reveletur. *Cardinal* Norfolk *had sufficient notice in* England *of all, and now a more ample; but I will ever go the old streight way with the* Pater noster *of* dimitte nobis debita nostra sicut & nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris, *which I do with all my heart, continuing with that other old prayer of* dimitte illis Domine quia nesciunt quid faciunt, & sic finitur *but unto the other part of this point I must again take leave to tell you that it may do the Duke no small prejudice, if the Catholicks of* England, *or the Pope and Cardinal* Altieri *with his Confederates of* Rome *should be perswaded of the Duke's partiality to any whatsoever: He may be a good friend to any in general or particular* (amicus *Plato* sed magis tamen amica Veritas) *but particular none, so far as to the exclusion of others Pray Sir, excuse my freedom, which posteth my Pen beyond my first intention, whilst* ex abundantia cordis os loquitur, *and let it not be that* veritas odium parit, *my intention is good whatever the effects may prove Finally,* Liberavi animam meam.

Now Sir, ad hominem (quia fragile sumus) *excuse Cardinal* Norfolk's

Norfolks *humanity which muſt be mentioned whilſt in this vally of miſery as becometh an* Engliſhman *for the Reputation at leaſt of the King Queen, Duke, Dutches and the Catholicks of* England *if any of them have a true ſence thereof, if not* videant ipſi *the fault and ſhame will lye at their door and damage not Cardinal* Norfolk *who will however be able to doe his dutie* coram Deo & Hominibus *is it not a ſhame for them all to thruſt Cardinal* Norfolk *totally on the* Pope *and* Rome *who have already* Motu proprio *done ſo much beyond all imaginable expectations? nay is it not worſe that the King or others ſhould endeavour to thruſt Cardinal* Norfolk *on France, Spain or the Emperour by moſt whereof Cardinal* Norfolk *has ſeveral years ſince had great offers but would never bite at and ſince made Cardinal* Norfolk *more powerful offer'd. But if the King and the reſt judg him not worthy of wearing his own maſters Livery he will rather appear ſo naked as yet to cover* Pudicitiam Patris (ſive Patriæ) ſui *with his own ſimple Coat rather than embroider it with others Livery to appear like a baſtard of his* ingratæ Patriæ. *To obviate which, I propoſed laſt week to Monſieur* Vincent Torre, *an old expedient I had heretofore (thought of, for another good end, and was of late practiſed for an other purpoſe; but reflecting ſince that not onely* qui cito dat bis dat *but that thoſe who efficaciouſly intend onely to give good words and future contingencies, on which* non datur ſcientia et quæ nihil ponunt in re *will ſo put off things of Execution and always create or find difficulties inſomuch that nothing is effected.*

To avoid this therefore, and better clear all, I have bethought myſelf of another more facile expedient viz. *That if the King will at once conſider Cardinal* Norfolk *it may be thus to grant a* Barrony *unto ſuch an one whom he may name of Worth, Eſtate, Fidelity and Deſert* &c. *for which Cardinal* Norfolk *may lawfully get a pretty ſumme of money and of the reſt in due time farther conſideration may be had; this the Duke can beſt manage neither will it be a new Wonder or* Scandalum Magnatum *although it ſhould be even for a Catholick, more than when the King would have made Sr.* Francis Ratclife *what you know (which was more) on the ſcare you know, I ſhall need ſay no more* quia ſapienti & intelligenti pauca *if the King pleaſe to do it and the Duke pleaſe to act the requeſt and perfectioning it with ſpeed Cardinal* Norfolk *will gratefully acknowledg it accordingly: but if it be put off untill better or worſe times of* futuris contingentibus, *I can although not Scientifically Prophetically (not as a Prophet but as an* &c.) *gueſs it at an end and will no longer Caſt my cap*

at

at it but ſquare it according to my other Mathematical & Aſtronomical Inſtruments in other Regions wherefore before the actions and Influences of the hot weather come on I ſhall expect the Determination of your cold Climates leaſt I ſhould be frozen up before I can break the Ice in due times and places.

Your Laſt Letters were ſealed on the writings that I can well make no ſence out of them but by gueſs, your news is grateful although your old friends have the ſame from you weekly but they have an addition unto it which I was glad to hear off (although I vertually believed it) *of the Dukes Endeavours to hinder what the Proteſtants did to his Daughters of late, you underſtand me and if I had Letters* (ut ſupra) *I could write more clearly of ſomewhat elſe in which the* Pope *was not ſo well ſatiſfied as I wiſhed but I have cleared the beſt I could although I declared always my opinion againſt it; but others more wiſe and politick went the contrary way and knowing my opinion would not ask it me, as they did others whom they thought to draw to theirs,* ſed invanum laboraverunt *not ſtateing right but quibling and juggling the queſtion and I having the Nuptial Veſtment* non fui vocatus ad Nuptias *which I was glad off however I often offered Cardinal* Norfolk, *& his Confederates Services, which when accepted off I hope to improve in all ſorts of reſpects as well as any; and as to a Penſion for the Secretary of the Dutcheſs, I do not deſpair in time, when Cardinal* Norfolk *hath a little more entred into thoſe and other affairs which he is now entring into, although you know that Penſions are hard things to be gotten at* Rome, *yet in time I hope to ſhew how much Cardinal* Norfolk *is your true friend, as you know,*

Rome March 14. 76.

My time is quite ſpent, and Eyes almoſt out, writing ſo much; no News, Cardinal Altieri *had ſome miſunderſtanding with Cardinal* Barbarin *the other day, Cardinal* Norfolk *keeps well with both.*

Sir,

Lect. pro Rege. THis week we have no Letters by way of *Flanders* from *England* the *French* having intercepted them, as we are told; Sir *Hen. Tich.* is gone away hence towards *France*, and ſo for your Quarters. The very morning early before he went hence, I procured him a private diſcourſe with my Father here, in which he was much ſatisfied, and will bring my Fathers particular

recommendations to the Duke & Dutcheſs, although (as Sir *Hen.* wrote to you ſometime ſince,) at *Rome* they wonder the Dutcheſs writeth not to the Pope, which when Cardinal *Norfolk* was firſt told of, he could hardly believe, being thoſe of *Rome* ſtand much on thoſe Punctilio's, as you know, eſpecially that the Dutcheſs being of that Country, either the Dutcheſs or other about her ſhould remember her to do it; it being ſo eaſy a thing, nay, and on the matter a Duty, wherefore if it be not yet done, I pray haſten it hither, and I will preſent it with the beſt excuſing Complements I can, for here they have a Good will for the Dutches and the Duke, as they ſay, they ſhewed to both in the Diſpenſ. which the Pope granted to the Dutcheſs to be with the Duke, as they are, although you know it was denyed to the Dutcheſs when ſhe was in her own Country, which denyal they ſay, was not on any ill will to the Dutcheſs or the Duke, but quite on the contrary, for both their good (the Pope having before exhorted the Dutcheſs unto it) but on other reaſons which I ſuppoſe you know, as alſo becauſe the Pope was not fully ſatisfied of the Dukes being a Catholick; which if ſo, there would have been no need of the Popes Diſpenſ. nay, that which then gave him doubt of the Dukes being a Catholick, and which yet doth not at all ſatisfie the Pope, or at *Rome* is the Duke doing as (they eſteem it) the contrary, by going (as you know) with the Proteſtants, which you know was long ſince condemned by former Popes, that the Catholicks could not, *&c*, and in that point I confeſs I was put to my Trumps in *Rome*, when it was objected to me, although I muſt as duly confeſs, it was never yet my Opinion in *England* that any Catholick could do it, and ſo I did clearly declare my ſelf, when, and whereſoever, I thought I ought, or that it was asked me, but I was informed, not long before I left *England*, that otherwiſe people propoſed ſomething confuſedly (not to term it otherwiſe) to ſome whom they thought convenient, to pick out in order to ſay ſomething to that purpoſe, *naſcitur rediculus mus*; and ſo went on, as before, hand over head, it being well for me not to have been called to ſo wiſe a buſineſs, ſince they and others knew I was not wiſe enough to underſtand, being I did never love to go headlong in a buſineſs above my low Capacity, nor endeavour to run hand over head, before I can well go on my own leggs, much leſs on others Shoulders. Finally, I think I could talk a great deal more Non-ſcence on this, than is fitting

ting to be written, it being more excuſable, when *ex abundantia cordis os loquitur*; then when *ex ſtultitia manu ſcribitur*; I would however ſay and write: that hitherto I cannot perceive the right way hath been taken for the Duke and *Rome* to underſtand throughly one another, nor the Catholicks and the Pope neither, but by confuſed, undigeſted (and too often Factious) Notions, which will never do rightly the Catholicks of *Englands* affairs: The Pope doth not at all deſire the Duke to do any thing indiſcreetly, or precipitantly, that all *England* may openly ſay, The Duke is a Catholick, leaving that unto his own diſcretion for a due time: but to do any thing to the contrary as *Rome* thinketh (*ut ſupra*) the Pope cannot approve of; I have however (I am ſure) done my part with *Rome* for the Duke who is not ſo much to be blamed on his ſide, if others who ſhould know more do not condemn, but rather approve, or at leſt connive therein. But of all this, and ſomewhat more, more hereafter: Interim, as to what you mention of a 100000 Crowns or more from *Rome* for the Duke is, a *Noli me tangere* at preſent; which the very fear of ſo conſiderable a buſineſs ſo hard to be gotten, would frighten *Rome*: In order to other more eaſie things for the Duke and Catholicks, we muſt firſt clear other ſmall ſtumblig Blocks, leaſt we run on Precipices not ſo eaſily to be gotten off; and I hope all will do well, although *Rome* remembers, and ſpeaks often, how in laſt Queen of *Englands* time, another Pope was deceived of much more than a 100000 Crowns, under pretence of the Catholicks in *Ireland*; However as I wrote unto you before, I am not out of hopes in ſome time to get a penſion for the Dutcheſſes Secretary, but all Affairs here muſt be well matured firſt, and a perfect underſtanding betwixt the Duke and the Pope, and Cardinal *Altieri* and *Rome*: For although I aſſure you, That both the Pope and Cardinal *Altieri* have a particular eſteem for the Duke that muſt be improved, and well modelled, that if he come to need it, the Cardinal of *Norfolk* may the better endeavour it And for this purpoſe I think it not amiſs, to tell you, That Cardinal *Norfolk* had ſome days ſince a Letter, of the one and thirtieth of *January*, left at his Lodging, from the Duke, by I know not who, yet he called himſelf the Dukes Agent; and, by what Cardinal *Norfolks* Servant tells me, He ſeemeth to be an *Italian*, as it's moſt probable; for, if he were of *England*, I think, he would not ſo publickly give himſelf that Name, which can do the Duke no good at preſent to

be

be called so in *Rome* publickly: Although I think it were very fitting, the Duke should have a good one; and, if he like of it, Cardinal *Norfolk* offers him who useth to write to you, Mr. *J. Lay*; for whose Ability, Fidelity and Activity, Cardinal *Norfolk* will answer, and, what he cannot do, Cardinal *Norfolk* will supply, and this without taking the name of it or any Interest, which, certainly others would expect, and perhaps want; but he doth neither. This you may offer the Duke in Cardinal *Norfolks* and his name.

Here it is said, The Empress is not like to live; if so, why might it not be thought of matching the Eldest of our Princesses there, or, if not, *France* or *Spain*.

I am much oblidged to the Duke and Dutches for Endevours, if need be, That the Queen of England should think of Removing Cardinal *Norfolk*: But, by what I hear from the Portugueſe and others, I think there is no such Intent: It having been onely the Invention and malicious Reports of some; however my Obligation to the Duke, Dutchess and Secretary is the same. I wrote of late by Sir *He--* to the Duke and Dutchess, and unto the Secretary, not long before; unto which I remit my self.

Cardinal *Altieri* and *Barberini* have no great intrinsecal Friendship which I suppose you know. *April*, 18.

SIR,

I Wrote to you a few Days since, and last Week received your Two together, of the 17th and 20th of *March*; the Two precedent Post-Letters being lost: having been taken a few Leagues from *Bruxels*, So that, if you, or any Friends wrote any thing worth replying, please to give notice to them, as I do you: What you wrote of the Dukes being Advanced one step towards the Catholick Religion, was a most welcome News to Cardinal *Norfolk*, who presently rejoyced our Pope and Cardinal *Altieri* with it: and now yours of the 27th hath fully compleated Cardinal *Norfolk*, our Pope, and Cardinal *Altieri's* Joy with it; As also the Dutchesse's Mother and Grandmother, who are in *Rome*, and Cardinal *Norfolk* presently accquainted. No wonder if Fools talk like Fools, and Knaves like themselves.

Your Correspondent I alligned you is your humble Servant: But we will not always too often trouble you with superfluous Expensive Letters: especially my self, who am mightily streightned for want of Time.

My Humble Dutie to the Duke, whome I will serve unto the Death,

Death, the beſt I can; as alſo the Dutcheſs, who I hope will bring forth an happy Catholick; Here ſome are curious to know who will be Godfathers and Godmothers.

2d *May* *Yours,*
as you know

Pleaſe to ſend Mr *Vincent* word, I have his of the 24*th* of *March*

May 16*th* 1676.

SIR,

I Receive together your two of *Friday* the 7th., and *Munday* the 10th *April*, being much rejoyced the Duke doth ſo well, not doubting of Gods bleſſing, but if the Duke or Dutches employ the Arch-Biſhop of *Dublin*, or his adherents in *Rome*, it will but confound their and the Catholicks affairs with chymerical Viſions, which at *Rome* are not eſteemed more than to ſpoil real affairs. Neither will *Rome* eſteem a *Benedictine* coming on ſuch things as belong not properly to his Trade. But ſuppoſe his buſineſs is to get a little money for himſelf, which is not ſo eaſily parted withall, and as to Prince *Rinaldi's* affair, Cardinal *Norfolk* hath twice (although no body ever ſpoke to him of it) ſpoken earneſtly about, but as affairs ſtand, nothing can at preſent be done for many reaſons, and you may be ſure that Card. *Fr. Barberine*, who hath ſo long endeavoured it, and the Dutcheſſes Mother now at *Rome*, and Card. *Norfolk*, will do their beſt when a fitting time and occaſion will be, without others, fooliſh impertinent buſie-bodies; and as to the A. B. of *Dublins* prevailing with the Duke in his late reſolution, few or none will believe it here he being ſo uſed to write falſhoods and forgeries, that his ſaying it maketh it not believed, but if it were ſo, *de bono opere non lapidamus te.* He did his duty, for which God recompence him. And as to what Mr. *Sheldon* pretends to ſay in the other point; betwixt the A. B. of *Dublin* and his adverſary, *Rome* needeth not ſuch learned wits, to teach thoſe who know better, others have already as fooliſhly been fidling, but neither Fidler or Fidleſtick is regarded. They may teach fools to dance if they can, for that tune ſoundeth not right where a better is uſed. The beſt employment Mr. *Sheldon* can for the Duke and Dutches is to become a *Benedictine*, and pray for them quietly, whileſt having nothing elſe to trouble you withal at preſent I am,

Yours as you know.

SIR

SIR,

ALthough I receive yours duely, yet I unwillingly trouble you with my empty Letters, having nothing hence worth your knowledg, but as before, that whatsoever I can with the Pope *for Prince* Rinaldi *being a Cardinal I shall do my best in, and I am glad the Dutches will write to the* Pope *which if ever before done, it's a wonder it was not delivered, as Card.* Alteri (*who should know tells me, but when this cometh I will deliver it, and tell both how the Dutcheß supposed hitherto a former was. Your Correspondent will be ready to obey the Dukes commands when he shall be honoured with them, and certainly hath good abilities for it. The new invented reports of a Bishop for* England *are Chymera's; that having long since been disposed off, although the* Benedictines *and others played the fools to stop the Execution of it in* England *when it was not intended to be made use off but in due time, which others (at least as good as the* Benedictines *and the* Caballers) *ought to judg, and when due time will be, the same party* per se vel per alium, vel alios, *may doe what will be to be done, for since the* Benedictines *could not get to be a bishop they would have two Bishops in hopes to be the one, which would be* altare contra altare, *as in* Ireland *betwixt* Armagh *and* Dublin, *but would be ever* pejor priore, *so that they may set their Minds and Tongues at rest, and look well to what is committed to them. The* French *fired the* Spanish *and* Holland *Ships and Gallies at* Palermo *most shamefully, as I suppose you will hear more particularly from others. They say many of* English *Marriners were with the* French. *My service to all Friends; Mr.* Conne *I suppose with you. I am* Yours as you know.

June 20.

SIR,

I Shall not need to make any particular Recommendations unto you of the Bearer hereof, he being my Nephew, and in whom you may securely have all confidence in any thing which may concern your Master, as your self, or me; for I assure you he hath a right esteem and fidelity for all, added to his natural good nature as well as good parts; and as affairs may occur, he will from time to time confer with you. He carrieth along with him some things for your Master and Mistress from my Patron, which you will be glad to see, whilst I remit the rest to him, remaining, *Sir*, Yours as you know,

Rome 12. June 1677. *Card.* of *Norfolk.*

Rome

Rome 27th July, 1677.

Sir,

THE *adjoyning Pacquet, which I now direct to you, contains the* Pope's *brief in anſwer to the ſecond Letter from his* R. H. *My Nephew, who carried the other, may about this time be near his journey's end with it; I aſſure my ſelf they will both be very welcome, as that which occationed them was to his Holineſs, God grant to this new Correſpondence a bleſſing, whereof the whole Nation may experience happy effects. I render you hearty thanks for your weekly favours, which is all I can do at preſent, there occurring to me here no other kind of return worthy your acceptance. The Animoſity of theſe perſons who formerly gave you ſome trouble is now I hope much relented; ſince your late Letters have made no mention of it. I wiſh you may continue to enjoy your ſatiſfaction in this point, that your friends may thereby have the ſatiſfaction of better enjoying you. I ſhall have my my part herein, as being,*

Sir,

Your Affectionate Friend,

Card. *of* Norfolk.

The Letters next following were written from the ſame place (*Rome*) by Mr. *Leyborn* to Mr. *Coleman*. Mr. *Leyborn* is ſaid to have been in nature of a Secretary to the *Cardinal* of *Norfolk*.

Sir,

I *Found in one of your laſt letters to Mr.* Grane, *a deſire of more punctual Correſpondence from me than Ordinary whilſt the Conclave ſitteth: This deſire ſhall be complyed with, ſo far as it is poſſible for me, but I fear your Curioſity will not thereby remain fully ſatiſfied; thoſe within the Conclave, who look more religiouſly upon their Obligation, keeping their ſecrets to themſelves; And amongſt the great variety of reports which fly abroad, it is not eaſy to diſtinguiſh truth from falſhood. I ſhall therefore be ſparing in delivery of ſuch particulars, leaving you to the publick fame, which in the Caſe may upon the matter be relyed upon as well as the intelligence of thoſe who pretend to have the beſt information. You will find here the liſt of the Cardinals which you deſire, ranged under their ſeveral parties or heads, but the order of their promotions is not exactly obſerved, eſpecially in the Creatures of* Altieri *and* Urſini, *who (before the other of the ſame*

name dyed was called S. Sisto *should be in the fourth place and* Balandonne *in the* 9th. *There may be other pretenders to the* Papacy *besides these which are mentioned; But I mark those which are most remarkable, Card.* Norfolk *hath received Letters from the King and Duke; enjoyning his adherence with* France, *which he answereth by this Post, that to the Duke the Secretary of the Dutchess will see. I refer you to other particulars to what I have writ unto my Lord* Arundel; *and Card.* Norfolk *to Mr.* Hayd. *Card.* Norfolk *will not accept the offer from* France *of* Albi, *dreading the dependence which would follow. A like offer from* Spain *hath been refused; Many are of opinion the Conclave will last long, especially if the* French *persist in their animosity against* Altieri, *who will be able in spight of them to hinder the Election of any whom they would endeavour to have chosen without his concurrence. It would be a great service to the Church if this quarrel (which seems to have no deep bottom) were taken up; the present conjuncture seems most proper for it, and Card.* Norfolk *might be a proper instrument. I hear our Country-man the Cardinal of* Norfolk *hath his health well in the Conclave, and gains much in the opinion of his Brethren. As matter occurs to feed your Curiosity, you shall hear further from,*

Sir,

Sept. 5th. *Your most humble Servant.*

W. L.

SIR,

THe Letters which came from you the last week, had been acknowledged and answered the ordinary day, and by the ordinary way, had not the expectation of the great business perfected this morning made me willing to defer writting two days longer. Cardinal *Odeschelechi* is the person on whom the great lot is fallen, by an unanimous consent of the Electors and who was designed before by a general desire of the people; the two great Catholick Monarchs concurring likewise for the Election, by their approbation of it, we have reason to promise that great matters will be done in his great pontificate, for the advancement of Catholick Religion. We want here no more at present to render our joys compleat, than to be assured that your Mistress is happily delivered of a Young Prince. This we hope will be the Subject of your next Letter, which therefore is expected with great impatience. My Lord hath by the Currier who carries these, writ both to your Mistress

ſtreſs and the Duke : You need not be put in mind, how requiſite it is that the Dutcheſs loſe no time in this occaſion, but write with what convenient ſpeed ſhe can to his Holineſs, from whom ſhe may promiſe her ſelf all expreſſions that ought to be expected of a moſt tender and Fatherly affection. The time I have of writting this is ſtole from other buſineſſes, which now calling for it again, Oblige me to ſubſcribe,

Sir

Rome Sep. 21. Your moſt humble Servant.
W. L.

Card, *Norfolk* judgeth it neceſſary that the Duke write alſo to the *Pope* and that the Dutcheſs Secretary may do well to propoſe; what was writ in the laſt Letters concerning Prince *Rinaldi* will be taken into ſerious conſideration : greater difficulties are to be overcome than you there without a long Diſcourſe will eaſily be perſwaded of however the perſon to whom the buſineſs is recommended will not, be wanting on his part.

[*This laſt* P. S. *is writ with the Cardinals hand*]

Juſt now I underſtand of the Dutcheſs delivery of a Princeſs, which I told the *Pope*, and all the Cardinals of, who are all very glad; the *Popes* name is *Innocentius* XI.

Rome April 17th.

SIR,

YOu would not wonder at my ſeldom Writing, if you conſider how little there accurs here to write off. Mr. Gr. *deſires me to render you his thanks for your weekly favours, and to let you know that the Letter which the Duke wrote to the* Pope, *and which was given to Mr.* Con. hath miſcarried: The Nuncio at *Paris* doth acknowledg to have received of Mr. *Con the Pacquet in which it was, and doth ſay he ſent it hither, but here it cannot be found. The Card. of* Norfolk *hath made this known to the Pope, and Cardinal* Cibo, *who ſays the only remedy now is a duplicat. I can give you no news hence worth your knowledge, Affairs at the Pallace go on in their ſlow train* Monſieur di Luca *the Popes Auditor and favourite hath theſe days paſt been at deaths door, but now there is hope of his Recovery. The common ſpeech is, that his Holineſs will ſhortly call to town ſome of his kindred, and confer Honours on them without Salaries. It is alſo ſaid there may probably be a promotion of Cardinals about* Whitſuntide, *but nothing is more uncertain here than re-*

ports of this nature. Foreign occurrences are the great matter of discourse, in which how much our wise men mistake, you may gueß by a report, which some principal persons were Authors of laſt week, and which upon their credit was much believed, viz. *That his R. Highneß was in very few days expected in* Florence, *and that Sir* Bern. Gaſcoyn *by the great Dukes Order was gon to recieve him at the Frontiers of that State. Some other paſſages concerning* England, *directly contrary to truth have been aſſured with great confidence, and accordingly believed. The* Pope *hath lately diſtributed ſome ſmall Penſions to the Cardinals of the laſt promotion, not ſufficiently provided for by his Predeceſſor. The C. of* Norfolk *hath (as I hear) for his ſhare* 1600 *Crowns, part whereof is to expire at the end of* 6 *Years, according to the ſtile of Penſions given upon Beneſices in* Spain *and* Portugal. *This help is thought by thoſe who know his Condition, to have but ſmall proportion with his neceſſities. But in this interreſſed Country and thrifty Pontificat, any little Proviſion of this kind is thought conſiderable. I wiſh you all happineß and remain,* Your moſt humble Servant.

29, May

Sir,

MY *laſt was of* April 17. *which I hope got ſafe to your hands; it was to acquaint you with the Miſcarriage of the Duke's Letter to the* Pope, *recommended long ſince to Mr.* Caun. *But the* Pope *remaining ſufficiently ſatiſfied by Card.* Norfolk, *that the Letter of the D. was brought to* Paris *and given to his Nuncios hands, and addreſt to C.* Norfolk, *reſolved without expecting the duplicat or ſuch another Letter, concerning which I wrote in my laſt, to direct a Brief to the Duke which will be carried by Mr.* Tho. Howard. *C.* Norfolk *doth not doubt but the Duke will reply thereupon, and hopes in the mean time that the expected duplicat, will meet with better ſucceß than the Letter laſt ſent.*

June 5. *Now the Brief directed to the Duke is in C.* Norfolk's *hands, nothing finer or more full of that kind could be expected. Mr. in few days doth depart with it, he carries alſo for the Duke and Dutches two pair of Beads from the* Pope, *with moſt ample Indulgences. It was deſired here that ſome* Engliſh *Prieſt ſhould be with the* Pope's *Nuncio at* Nimiguen. *Mr.* Godden *was named by Card.* Norfolk, *but he deſiring to be excuſed, I think Mr.* Caun *will go. My ſervice to our Friend in* Fleetſtreet.

June

June 25. *Noiſe of peace is heard here from all places, we hope ſhortly to have it publickly proclaimed by ſinging off a* Te Deum. *I thank you for your Poſtſcript which is concerning Mr.* Platt, *who is now ſo impertinent. as to declare that he was always a Proteſtant in his heart.*

expects with great impatience an Order to recal him, and certainly Mr. Platt *doth deſerve it.*

July 9. *The hope you give that Mr.* Platt *will be recalled is very welcome to the Duke of* Florence. *there is great need of it for the Inquiſition hath already begun to ſtir in it. Card* Cibo *hath made complaint of it to the Reſident of* Florence *as I have ſignified more particularly to Lord* Arundell. *I long for your next which becauſe it promiſeth much, which ſtraitneſs of time made you omit in the laſt.*

July 10. *My laſt which was by the laſt Poſt acquainted you that the Letter of the Duke of* York *to the* Pope *was received, the good man in reading it could not abſtain from Tears. Card.* Norfolk *doth anſwer will ſhortly be ſent, though upon the matter it hath been done Anticipatedly; greater tenderneſs, with expreſſion of kindneſs and eſteem, could not be expected, as you are deſired to ſignify,*

July 16. *What hath come to your mind concerning a Match with the Prince of* Florence, *and our Lady* Anne, *deſerves better reflections than I am able for the the preſent to make of it; ſetting aſide the intereſt which might move the Duke of* Florence *to deſire it. I am verily perſwaded that the great reſpect he hath for the Duke of* York, *would ſet a great weight upon his inclination to carry him towards it; I had yeſterday a Letter from the Duke of* Florence, *who continues his preſſing earneſtneſs for compaſſing the buſineſs which hath been ſo often mentioned. I doubt it may linger a great while if ſuch a reaſon be expected as may ſatiſfie the Enemies of Religion. I think it might ſuffice to alledge, that Mr.* Platt *is very unwelcome to the Duke of* Florence.

July 30. *The Court here will not be well pleaſed, till the new difficulties which obſtruct the peace at* Nimiguen *be removed.*

July 24. *Mr.* Gr. *is your ſervant, this day he hath a brief of the* Pope *in anſwer to the letter of the Duke.*

Aug. 6. *Theſe muſt acknowledg the receipt of yours* June 28. *and* July 1. *The Poſtſcript in one of them was very welcome. for the ſatisfactory matter, it gave me for a Letter to the Duke of* Florence, *after two weeks ſilence to the point he is ſo much concerned for. The ſame Poſt did alſo bring me a Letter from Lord* Arundell *to the ſame effect, which*

I shall thank for shortly. Card Norfolk *hath wrote to the King, and sent a Letter from the Queen of* Sweden, *disiring him to take her into his protection at the Treaty in* Nimiguen, *Reasons to prove the Justice of her pretences are sent to Mr* Cook *Card.* Norfolk *would be well pleased if Mr.* Coleman *would promote this Interest with the Duke.*

Aug. 13. *I have had thanks this week from the Duke of* Florence, *for the account gave him the last, of what was contained in letters from L.* Arundel, *and Mr.* Coleman *about Mr.* Platt.

Aug. 20. *We have had this week three from you, one of them gave hopes of a Letter from the Lord* Arundel. *I am indebted to our friend in* Fleet-street *for two Letters.*

Sept. 11. *A Brief was sent last year dated about the Mo. of* May, *and carried from hence by an* Irish *Bishop. Card:* N. *would know if it were delivered to the Queen, the answer was late expected. Card:* Barb: *is in pain to know whether a Picture which he sent to her* R: H: *hath been receiv'd.*

Nov: 20. *Tours of* Oct: 5 *and* 8. *found me in the Country with Mr:* Gra. *Too morrow we return to* Rome. *I am sorry that my Letter of* Sep: 11. *as to that part which was in Cypher, after the trouble it had given you, prov'd at length not intelligible. That which C:* Nor: *would know if deliver'd to the Queen, was a Brief sent to her from the* P: *last year, about the M: of* May, *and given by Card:* N: *to an* Irish *Bishop, who not passing by* England *delivered it to the Lady.*

Nov: 28. *The Confidence with which Mr:* Col: *ends his Letter to the Prin: doth much please; But that delivered by Mr:* Caun, *in naming to Dss:* Laud: *the Corresp: of Card:* N: *is wondered at. I hope Mr:* Colem: *will on this accident judg it necessary to proceed with more caution, and send a false name too write to him. Card:* N: *hath had some answer from* Portugal *but no resolution,* Engls: *Competitor is not Card* D'estre *but* Rospilias, *to whose Unkle the Pr: and Pss: of* Fort: *owe their Marriage.*

Dec: 18. *We are told the D: of* Modena *intends a journey to* Lond: *Ca.* N: *will to his power second the demand which Card:* Barb: *is too make in behalf of Pr:* Rinaldo; *he saith that concern was never touched by the Duke or Dutchess in any Letter to him, nor did the Dutchess of* Modena *when she was here seem too relish it much.*

Jan: 1. 1678. *The Letter of the D: to the* Po: *about the Marriage of his Daughter to the* P: *of* Orange *hath been delivered. I confess the* P: *remains satisfied that the* D: *was in no fault, but in his intended answer will not touch that point. The business of the P:* Rinaldo *I fear is not yet ripe.*

Oct:

Oct: 1. Interupted. 1670 *This Week's Post brought but one from you under date of* Aug: 23. *it was almost overtaken by an Expreſs diſpatcht from* Nimiguen *by the* P*'s: Nun: who yeſterday morn: brought the welcome News of a Peace made between* France *and* Spain *: His Holineſs went yeſterday afternoon to St.* Marie Major *to thank God for that publick benefit, and* Te Deum *like to be Sung.*

There were ſeveral Letters writ to Mr. *Coleman* by the late Earl of *Berkshire* under the borrowed name of *Rice.* The names of Principal men and matters are therein expreſſed in words of *Cabal* or Cypher: which there was not any key to open and explain. But at the Committee of *Lords* there was the following key made; but made by *Conjecture* onely; and therefore it is not warranted for certain. But, the Reader may uſe this or his own ſence, and Conjecture upon the 4 or 5 of the Letters here exhibited.

March the 7th 1675. *William Rice.*

Lady	*D. York*
Patch	*Arlington*
Brother	*D. York*
Trees	*Great men, Lord Treaſurer*
Ladies Siſter.	*The King*
Oake	*The Treaſury*
Lady to be paſſively neutral, &c.	*D. York to be paſſive in the matter of diſ. Par.*
Adverſaries	*The Proteſtant party*
The Two Trees	*Parliament and Proteſtant party*
Yorkshire and Dorſet Atturneys.	*Buckingham and Shaftsbury*
Bothoakes	*Lord Treaſurer and L.*
Ladies Neece	*Duke of Monmouth*
The Aunt	*The Duke*

October 20. 1674.

Wife of Shaftsbury Without	*The Nonconformiſt Inteveſt Date*
Dorc. Atturneys Letter	*Shaftsburies Letter to Carlisle*
Gardiners Brother	*The Duke*
The Two Trees	*The P. & Proteſt. Religion or, P. Relig. & Property*
Ladies Siſter	*The King*
Ladies Houſe	*Romish Religion*
Plenipotentiary	*Lord Treaſurer*
Champerty	*Court diſſimulation, or undermining*
My Friend	*D. Buckingham*
Ladies Friend over the Dike	*The French King*
A Term	*A Seſſion of Parliament*
New Aſſize	*A New Parliament*
His Miſtreſs	*The Popish Cauſe*
The Grand Jury	*The Parliament Men*

September 10 1674.

SIR,

I Have received yours dated *Auguſt* the 28th, and if your Lady pleaſeth with Confidence to retain me in her Cauſe, as you ſay ſhe wil ſhe may reſt moſt ſecure to be both Faithfully and Uncorruptibly, according to the old Engliſh Oarh of an Attorney, without Fear, Favour, or Affection; from hence therefore I reſolve not to ſtir upon no other bodies Call nor Fees, untill I have her ſpecial Command to come up to *Weſtminſter*, and full Inſtructions how to move when I am there, which muſt be your part to ſee done and prepared in the mean

timo

time, becauſe I would think a little thereupon between this and then ſince the impertinenteſt of officiouſneſſes is to pretend to be wiſer in other folkes concerns than they are themſelves; yet give leave to ſay that I doubt very much words will not be kept with her by thoſe whom chiefly ſhe doth depend on, not to ſhrink in the day of Battle; when bullets begin to fly thick and near; and though my Brother Attorney of *Dorcheſt*, and his whole packed jury ſaving two of the number, who are my Couſin Germains originally, are Cowards, let not that comfort you at all, for if you remember after *Clinias* was driven into the water, he fought like a lyon; beſides, the ills which they have already done, to ſpeak the plain truth, cannot be ſafe but by attemting greater, wherein the Ladies Neece if good care be not early taken will have a conſiderable portion.

I would you ſay as I doe becauſe of my Ladies former diſpleaſure towards me, which makes them lie at ſomething an opener Garde with me in this particular then they do perhaps with others of the ſame profeſſion, what poſtings, and meetings there are up and down the Country about this matter, to the exaltation of the Neece, *uſq; ad cælum*, and to the crying down of the Aunt, nay and to ſuch an inſolence is the little Atturny grown, that when applications are made unto him from the Center of all theſe lines, as you well obſerve, and the man for whoſe ſake I firſt fell into diſgrace with the Lady to admit them into his Counſels and intereſts, the urchin ſtill anſwers *quod cum impiis non vult Converſari*, and that he intends to do his work not by ſuch aſſiſtances, *ſed ſolum ex pondere cauſæ*; wherefore if any Champarty maſculine or feminine of that kind could be proved in open Court it were not amiſs, but when the thing comes to the touch, you'l ſee that it will not abide the tryal nor bear water.

The giving of mony then is all I can apprehend to be dangerous in this Caſe, with a condition to exclude the Aunt out of the entaile, becauſe upon thoſe terms no *ſeparate proviſo* can ſerve her turn, onely conduce towards the invalidating the teſtimony of her witneſſes and Friends.

I deſire to hear onely that you have gotten this note ſafe into your hands, ſhew it unto my Lady at ſeaſonable opportunities; and ever eſteem me without welt or guard.

Your faithfulleſt Friend
and Servant
William Rice.
October

October 20. 1674.

I Have Received yours dated the 13th of this month, theſe come to you by a ſecure hand, elſe I would not venture to write out of paraboles.

The new Parliament is that which the Dorſetſhire Attorney, and all his Clients have now in chace, Conſultations are on foot how to frame addreſſes for it, within the compaſs of the Law.

Tell our Lady from me that ſhe hath but one point ſeriously to intend, which is to make herſelf, and not be denyed the Commiſſion, mediatrix of the Peace, which *France* as well as *Spain* are more inclined towards than ever, becauſe of the unrulineſs of the German Confederates, for ſhould either the Duke of *Buckingham*, or my Lord of *Arlington* get that Employment from her, nay any one beſides, there is an end of her ſtory: By reaſon if the new Parliament cannot be obtained, to have their own Creatures truſted with this mediation, is the onely hope they have left; I mean the wife of *Shaftsbury*: could they and their adherents by authors of the general peace upon the nick of this Conjuncture I am afraid *France* will not ſtick ſo cloſe to the Lady, as perchance ſhe believeth they would, ſince to my knowledge they are actually in treaty at preſent with thoſe two perſons whom I laſt named to this very purpoſe, therefore you ſee in this cauſe I do not juggle nor regard either peculiar Intereſts, or Friendſhip: for the Duke of *Buckingham* till he be at the brink of Death will never be right to our Cauſe more, both becauſe he doth think the Lady underhand hath uſed him hardly in the matter of his late perſecutions, as alſo, that moſt of our perſwaſion were in the contrivance of the petition which was delivered in Parliament againſt my Lady of *Shaftsbury* and him, though perhaps both equally miſtaken, however, I muſt be ſincere always with you, for ſo it is, and if my Lord of *Arlington* can obtain the Commiſſion aforeſaid, then a rope for the Pope, and long live the houſe of *Naſſaw*, you ſee clearly I truſt you, therefore I am ſure you will not ſuffer the integrity of a poor Country Cloathier to be abuſed.

I tell you again, if they can get the acting of the Peace into their hands, in one word, they will be able to do their work, *per actum agere*, and much better hilted than it was the laſt time, for ſo will they be Maſters of the Caſe of all Subſidies both abroad and at home, which you cannot be ignorant ſomewhere is a potent argument, but to thoſe who look aſquint upon things and men that are above their reach, theſe I eaſily believe will be held Chimerical Speculations.

Should the matter be ordered ſo as to make the new Parliament the Cauſe of the Peace, or the Peace the means of the new Parliament, our Lady may when ſhe pleaſeth retire to hunt at her hired houſe in *Suffolk*.

All that I deſire from you is to let me know, as ſoon as you can, whether or no this Parliament ſhall meet and ſit again the 13th. of *April*, for the reſt I can better inform you of, than you me, in relation to Country tranſactions.

To conclude, nothing can ſave us but reſolution, and throwing off the maſque, ſince none but children can be ſo weak as to imagine they are not known through a vizzard, as much as without one in their Faces. My notes are ready, & tranſcribing to be ſent you, let the Lady conſider them, and diſpoſe thereof as ſhe thinks good; for 'tis a maxime I ſhall never quit, not to pretend to be wiſer in other folks matters than they are themſelves. I beſeech you burn theſe after our Lady hath ſeen them, I ſhall be very impatient till I am ſure they are ſafe come to your hands, farewell.

When I ſay Reſolution, do not think I expect Impoſſibilities, *Deus non cogit ad impoſſibilia*, nor am Ignorant how difficult it will be to get that herb out of a Garden, where nothing but irreſolution groweth.

November 20. 1674.

THeſe come to you by a very ſafe hand, therefore be not afraid to read them, this was very unſeaſonable hunting weather, as I writ before, unleſs there be ſomething at the bottome for that reſolution which we do not ſee, for never think that theſe Carneval Plen potentiaris go into *Holland* onely to make merry with their wives kindred there, and leſs that if my Lord *Latimer* goeth along with them, that he can either make or mar any ſport: beſides the treaty betwixt *France* and the *Suedes* and *Rohams* conſpiracy, whether true or falſe will have influences here that muſt of neceſſity make the little *Dorſetshire* Attorny and his Aſſociates look ſeriously about them in order to their own preſervation, you ſay that neither

h's *R. H.* My Lord Treaſurer, nor the Duke of Lauderdale knew any thing of th's Miſterious Journey, and then you may be ſure is cannot be good, but thus much I can write upon certain knowledg, that their Emiſſaries do go up and down from Country to Country, to ſettle the minds of the people, that the Parliament will infalibly Sit, and meet in *April* again, and for an earneſt token thereof do give them inſtance by the ſuddain renewing of the order for prohibiting of Papiſts from coming to Court, for out of whoſe quiver that came I need not tell you, only this I can tell you, that ſince he is Canonized not only for the beſt Stateſman: but alſo for the beſt Proteſtant that ever was in *England* ſince my Lord of *Clarendon*'s departure, you ſay we ſhall ſee ſomething about the latter end of the Term, I pray God heartily that the Lady do not too often take nothing for ſomething yet am not ignorant of the difficulties ſhe laboureth under neither, by my former Letters which I wrote unto you touching the matter of the peace, I ſtill intimated that if the Commiſſion to treat it were taken out of her hands there was an end of the ſtory, for if this Parliament doth ever meet again, good night, but ſtanders by cannot underſtand the courſe of the Cards ſo well as thoſe that play them, therefore will I ſay no more of th's particular, though I be ſtrongly perſuaded within my ſelf, that the Prorogation was reſolved only to try to make the better bargain for the ruin of us all, which if it can be effected, remember I tell you let thoſe whom ſhe moſt dependeth upon without naming any body, promiſe never ſo deeply to the contrary, ſhe will be deſerted and left alone, *ſicut paſſer ſolitarius in tecto*, for this Convention of Biſhops which you mention, is only parare vias thereunto, ſince, to ſay the truth, that Church hath no other expedient left how to ſubſiſt, theſe few ſcribled lines are directed to no other eyes but your own, pray write largely unto me once for all by this bearers return who is ſecure and truſty, and believe that in the whole world you have not a faithfuller Servant than,

William Rice.

Shew this Note to the Lady.

IT is my duty the Lady ſhould know all things which come to me whatever they are, conſiderable or not, to judg, and make what uſe of them ſhe thinks beſt.

Here was with me laſt night one of the Cabal and a near Relation, who ſaith he can propoſe the greateſt matters unto her imaginable in order to her preſervation and no leſs, in caſe the Parliament doth meet but with this reſtriction to me, that profered ſervice ſtinks, it is a vain time, and the preſent ſtate of affairs makes moſt men more preſumtious and vain than otherwiſe they would perhaps be.

His Propoſals conſiſts but of two Parts, the one to obtain a *proviſo* of Exemption for her in the grand intended Bill againſt Popery, and the other by the ſame *proviſo* as he ſaith he can demonſtratively ſhew that he is able to make good, that all her former offices, Baliwicks and places ſhall be re-inveſted in her again.

The Lady ſeemed to approve of taking in all perſons, I will be caution that th's man ſhall not break his word, but not ſuretyſhip that he may not reckon without his hoſt, he will not come unleſs ſent for, all which I ſubmit to the Lady's better judgment, having Commiſſion to bring him thither whenever ſhe pleaſes to Command his attendance,

William Rice.

Saturday Morning.

Oh! formoſe Puer nimium ne crede colori.

TO anſwer yours then of the 15th. *March* both Latin and Engliſh, I preſume that e'er th's you may have ſeen the *Dorſetſhire* Attornys circular letter to his Companions, becauſe every Coffee-houſe has Copies of it, wherein he doth not onely mention, a new Tryal, but alſo a new Jury, or elſe reſolveth flatly not to come up to the Aſſiſe.

But an intimate friend of his told me no longer agon than yeſterday, that he is ſure nothing can be more remote from his heart, than a new Jury, and that he doth give out this only, *Captare Benevolentiam* with the Grand-Jury-men, and *John Bothoaks* their Solicitour, becauſe ſayeth the crafty Pettifogger unto them, I move this only for your ſakes, ſince whatever I deſire, the Judg will never grant, and ſo have dextrously avoyded a new Jury by ſeeming to demand one, which conſidering the humour of the mans dealing is not totally improbable.

Pray

Pray acquaint the Lady with this particular, because it is most true and worth her knowing.

I am very glad to hear it again confirmed by you, that the Gardeners brother proveth a good man, he saith right, the two Trees must down, which now there is no more dispute cannot stand without the undermining of the Ladies house, but all the craft will be how to get them removed, for which the Gardiners Brothers Tools I doubt are not sharp enough, besides those who have promised to work with him, when the Spade cometh to the Rock 'tis to be feared may digg Counter, for at present 'tis a tough piece of labour, and will continue so until the Ladies Sister doth feel the inconvenience of their standing there as well as she herself has felt it already.

That the Lady has gotten a Plenipotentiary of her own chusing is good, if he doth not find that he must digg against the Rock too, for then as well as I love the man, he is not to learn this lesson of the Ladies, of any Church whatsoever, *durum erit tibi contrà stimulum calcitare*, my friend I begin to hope may do well by something I have heard of him, whereof more by the next return.

Send me word I entreat you what Bills are upon the stocks, & whether there be one in hand to exclude the Catholick Lords from Sitting & Voting in the House of Peers, that I may prepare accordingly.

Since the Priests and Monks are all gon, when they are beyond-seas again, more Masters of their Conceptions than they were here, I pray God that they may write no foolish Books to inflame the reckoning, which by the way they are like enough to do, unless warned to the contrary by the Lady, whose good they ought to tender more than the pleasing of their fancies, since the penalty of their follies, otherwise will certainly light upon her in the conclusion of things.

Since the Lady will go to a new trial, intend, proceed, prosper and reign, the Gardener will not be long from you to accomplish his word; but if the event doth not prove otherwise than is expected I am much cousened, for either *John Bothoaks* must needs be stark mad, or he is sure of having already packed the Cards enough to do his feat with the Jury before he cometh to sit down at *prima-visti* with the Lady, in fine, though I knew *Cassandra* was an Asse for Prophecying always where she was never believed, yet I cannot leave this kind of style for my heart.

Let your new Instruments be never so acceptable to the Jury for a while, that is to say, till the cheat be enacted, they will not have been long in the Ladies hands, but will become like the others heretofore, whom they somuch distasted, since their business is not to accept of her security upon a change of officers, but right or wrong to reject it, whatever she offers, or whomever she imployeth.

Another scruple too I have, which is, whether her friend over the dyke will be true to her or no, for if so, as you well observe Orange Trees will not thrive in our soil, farewell till I see you

March 2[illegible]. 1673.

One of the Letters which could not be Decyphered by the Keys found.

Rome: January 1[illegible]. 1675.

IT is certain, that the best way to render himself Master of the King's Will, and to take him off from the Amity with the Parliament, is that of Money, and I doubt not but the Duke may by it make himself absolute upon his spirit, and take for his purest and for that of the Catholicks the advantages which you observe in your last letter, but when the Pope himself shall have the means to do that which shall be necessary in his Affair, which is very much beyond his power, for the reasons I gave when I had the happiness to see you, and of which I advertised you in many Letters, he can never be pressed with Reason to do it, but upon more sollid foundations, and more probable assurances for the good of Religion and of the Catholicks, which are not yet such, as are contained in the discourse mentioned in your last Letter, that which you propose touching 51 6 2 7966[illegible]9 1 *which is* 6[illegible]7[illegible]757966[illegible]1676676 *cannot be put in execution* 5[illegible]6 6 516 5566 667 *but with the* 7 7 99[illegible]6699 1[illegible]9[illegible]996 *of all* 5 67917 666[illegible]965[illegible]99[illegible]7 9 *and only* 667 191 76691 *comprising* 966 9991 1 7919[illegible]71 1[illegible]15 91 *you may then consider, if in the Lands where they are at present* 51[illegible]91665[illegible]666 626791968[illegible]204. *It would be to purpose for the Interest of the Duke, to put in publick an affair of such a nature as this of which I assure you with truth, and the Duke may be perswaded is what* [illegible]9[illegible]7 669 655[illegible]519 6762766461 199647 6716[illegible]51 797 6[illegible]916162[illegible] 9[illegible]3204 *will imploy* 66 1 72 *and* [illegible]1[illegible]126 *and* 5167 7626 7966[illegible]6 *for* 5[illegible]6691916[illegible]9161676 6662679161[illegible] 94 1645[illegible]51665166[illegible]126 6 9981204 *see-*

ing that Rome *and the Emperour have a moſt particular zeal and affectione for all that which regard it, As for* Gabriel *he doth imploy himſelf both with the one and the other, with the ſame paſſion he always had for the Dukes ſervice, and you will ſee, it may be, very ſhortly marks of it. It is ſaid here, that the King hath not for ſome time been in good health, adviſe me how it is and of our Commerce you may continue till farther order, to ſend me your Letters by the ſame away you have done to this time, I am, without reſerve,*

Your moſt Humble and affectionate Servant
ALBANY.

The Cypher which I put into to the hands of Joo, and that you may have from him, will ſerve, you to Decypher that which is above.

There were ſeveral Faculties and Inſtruments found in the hands of one of the Five Jeſuits, and of Mr. Daniel Arthur, *which follow in the Original* Latin, *and Tranſlated into* Engliſh.

Facultates pro Reverendiſſimo Domino *Joanne Laket*, Sacerdote Anglo, in Regnis *Angliæ, Scotiæ*, aliisque Dominiis Legis *Magnæ Britaniæ*, excepta *Hibernia*.

1. *Absolvendi ab Hæreſi, & Apoſtaſiâ à Fide & Schiſmate quoſcunque etiam Eccleſiaſticos, tam Seculares quam Regulares, non tamen eos qui ex Laicis fuerint ubi Sanctum Officium exercetur, niſi in Locis Miſſionum in quibus impune graſſantur Hæreſes, deliquerit, nec illos qui Judicialiter Abjuraverint, niſi ipſi nati ſint ubi impune graſſantur Hæreſes, & poſt Judicialem Abjurationem illuc reverſi in Hæreſin fuetint Relapſi, & his in foro Conſcientiæ tantum.*

2. *Abſolvendi in omnibus Caſibus, etiam in Bullâ Cœnæ.*

3. *Diſpenſandi in tertio & quarto ſimplici & mixto Conſanguinitatis & Affinitatis gradibus in contractis Matrimoniis cum perſonis Catholicis, aut Hæreſin Relinquentibus, idque in foro Conſcientiæ tantum, & prolem ſuſceptam Legitimam declarandi.*

4. *Reſtituendi Jus petendi debitum amiſſum.*

5. *Adminiſtrandi omnia Sacramenta, etiam Parochialia, Ordine & Confirmatione exceptis.*

6. *Celebrandi Miſſam quocunque loco decenti, etiam ſub dio, ſub terrâ, una hora ante Aurora, & alia poſt Meridiem, bis in die ſi Neceſſitas cogat; ſi tamen in prima Miſſa non ſumpſerit ablationem: & ſuper Altari portabili, etiam fracto aut læſo, ſine Sanctorum Reliquiis & preſentibus Hereticis aliiſque Excommunicatis, ſi aliter celebrari non poſſit, etſi non ſit piriculum Sacrilegii, dummodo inſervint Miſſæ, non ſit Hæreticus, & Excommunicatus.*

7. *Deferendi ſanctiſſimum Sacramentum occultum ad infirmos ſine lumine, ubi eſt periculum.*

8. *Recitandi Roſarium, vel alias Preces, ſi Breviarium ſecum deferre non poſſit, vel Officium divinum, ob aliud legitimum Impedimentum, recitare non habent,*

9. *Tenendi & Legendi quoſque Libros prohibitos, præter contentis in Bullâ Cœnæ, & præter opera* Caroli Molinei, Nicolai Machiavelli, *& Libris de Aſtvologiâ Judiciariâ, vel incidenter, vel alio quovis modo tractantes; dandi etiam Licentiam Laicis ex juſtâ cauſâ, ut Libros Catholicorum contra Hereticos, Anglico Idiomate ſcriptos, & Sacras Scripturas, in idem Idioma fideliter verſas legant.*

10. *Diſpenſandi & comutandi vota ſimplicia ex rationabili Cauſæ, exceptis Votis Caſtitatis & Religionis.*

11. *Benedicendi paramenta & alia Utenſilia ad Sacrificium Miſſæ neceſſarium, ubi non intervenit Unctio.*

12. *Diſpenſandi quando expedire videtur ſuper eſu Carnium, Ovorum, & Lactinorum, etiam tempore Quadrageſimæ.*

13. *Concedendi Indulgentiam plenariam primo converſis ab Hæreſi, & fidelibus quibuscunque, in articulo mortis ſaltem contritis, ſi Confiteri non poſſint.*

14. *Concedendi ſingulis Dominicis aliiſque Diebus Feſtis decem annorum Indulgentium iis qui ejus concionibus interveuerint, & plenaria iis qui previaS acramentali peccatorum ſuorum Confeſſione, ſacram Euchariſtiam ſument in Feſtis Natalis Domini, Paſchalis, & Aſſumptionis Beatiſſimæ Virginis.*

15. *Lucrandi ſibi eiſdem Indulgentiis.*

16. *Singulis ſecundis Feriis non impeditis Officio, novem Lectionum, vel iis impeditis, die immediate*

mediate sequenti celebrando Missam, de requie in quacunque Altari etiam portubili, aborandi animam secundum ejus Intentionem à Purgatorii panis per modum suffragii, quas facultates concedimus & septennium duntaxat duraturus, Ita tamen ut antea revocari etiam possint ad beneplacitum nostrum sine ullius Causæ expressione, easque manu nostra firmavimus, Die 25 *Mensis* Junii, 1578.

Per Cardinalis *Barbarinus* Protector.
Christ. Abbas Blancas Secretarius.

Faculties and Priviledges granted to the Right Reverend Father John Laket *an* English *Priest; to be by him extended unto, and executed on the Kingdoms of* England *and* Scotland, *and all other the Dominions of* Great Brittain, *except Ireland.*

1. OF Absolving all sorts of persons from Heresie, Apostacy and Schism, and that Ecclesiasticks or Religious, both Secular and Regular, as well as others: providing they did not live where the *Roman* Worship was used or practised. Yet always allowing that these may be Absolved, who in the way and Places of their * Mission, are thorough the Power and prevalency of Heresy forced and laied under a necessity of concealing themselves. However, they are not to be absolved, who having judicially and according to Forms of Law, abjured and renounced their Heresy, do nevertheless withdraw and absent themselves from the Catholick Worship, unless they be such as are born and do live where Heresy universally obtaineth, as being established by Authority, or such who through their being cast into such Places, have after the abjuration of their Heresy relapsed into it. And these are to be absolved and Pardoned only, as to what respects Conscience.

* *Missionaries, are those who are sent to Spread the Popish Doctrine in Protestant Kingdoms,* &c.

2. Of Absolving and Acquitting in and about all Cases, even those which are contained in the *Bulla Cœnæ*, or the Bull of the Supper or Sacrament.

3. Of Dispensing and allowing a liberty to Catholicks, and such who have forsaken the Protestant Heresy, to Marry within the Third and Fourth Degrees (whether simple or mixed) of Kindred and Consanguinity, and of declaring their Off-spring and Issue Legitimate, yet so, that this Dispensation do only extend to Conscience.

4. Of granting a liberty, and allowing a right to all from whom due benevolence hath been withheld, or to whom upon any pretence it hath been refused, of demanding and claiming the Duties of the Marriage-Bed.

5. Of Administring all the Sacraments, except these of Order and Confirmation.

6. Of saying and celebrating Mass in any vacant place whatsoever, whether it be in the open fields, or in Vault and Cellars, and that in case of necessity, it shall be lawfull to perform this twice a day, *viz.* once in the morning, and once at noon provided he have not at the first Mass received the * Ablution. And this may also Celebrate upon any moveable Altar, though defaced or broken, and without sacred Relicks yea if it cannot be otherwise conveniently performed, it shall be lawful to administer in the presence of Hereticks, and other Excommunicated persons, provided always that there be no danger of Sacriledg and that he who serveth, assisteth, and Ministreth unto him at the said Mass, be neither an Heretick nor Excommunicated person.

* *Ablution, is the Priests having dip his fingers in the Cup which leaving upon the Altar till he have washed his hands, he afterwards returns and drinks up.*

7. * Of carrying the Sacrament to any who are sick, and in cases of danger, without Lights or Torches.

* *Altars Portatil, is any Consecrated piece of Board or Stone, which the Priest carries about with him to Celebrate the Eucharist upon.*

8. Of Rehersing the Rosary, or any other Prayers, when he cannot carry his Breviary about with him, or when by reason of some lawful hindrance or impediment he connot repeat the Divine Office.

9. Of keeping and reading all sorts and kinds of Prohibited Books, except such which are contained in the *Bulla Cœnæ*, and the Book of *Charles Molinæus*, and *Nicholas Machiavel*, and such Books which either designedly or occasionally Treat of Judiciary Astrology. And of allowing upon a just and weighty cause a liberty to Lay-people to read such Catholick Books as are written in English a-

gainst

againſt Hereticks, and of reading the Sacred Scripture, provided they be faithfully Translated into the *Engliſh* Tongue.

10. Of Diſpenſing with, making Commutation and exchange about, ſimple and naked vows, unleſs they be Vows of Chaſtity, and of entring into Holy Orders.

11. Of Bleſſing all the Accoutrements (*paramenta*) and Utenſils requ'red or needfull for the Celebration of the Maſs, except they be ſuch which ought to Conſecrated.

12. Of Allowing Diſpenſations for the Eating of Fleſh, Eggs, and all Meats made or prepared of Milk, at all times when it ſhall be judged convenient, though it be in the very ſeaſon of Lent.

13. Of granting a Plenary Indulgence, or a Pardon from all ſins, to all and every perſon and perſons, at and upon your firſt Converſion from Heriſy, and the like to all Catholicks at the hour of Death, though they be not in a condition to make Confeſſion, providing onely, that they be penitent and contrite,

14. Of granting every Sunday and every Holy-day an Indulgence from all Sin for ten year, to ſuch as have been preſent at the Sermons or Religious Worſhip: And a plenary indulgence from all their ſins during their whole life to ſuch, who having firſt made confeſſion, do receive the Euchariſt at the Feaſt of the Nativity of our Bleſſed Lord, the Feaſt of Eaſter, and the Feaſt of the Aſſumption of the Bleſſed Virgin.

15. That the ſaid Reverend may take the benefit of all theſe indulgences himſelf, and be participant of all theſe Pardons.

16. He ſhall have power and Authority every other day, unleſs prevented by the Office of the *Nine* Leſſons and in caſe he be ſo let or hindred, he ſhall then have power and authority the day following, of Freeing and Redeeming any one Soul, whom he pleaſeth from the pains and torments of Purgatory and upon his ſaying and celebrating the Maſs for the Dead, called [illegible], upon any portable or moveable Altar.

And theſe Faculties and Privledges we grant and allow, to continue and indure, for, and during the time of ſeven years; yet ſo, as without the aſſigning any cauſe or reaſon, we may revoke and recal them before the expiration of that time, if we be ſo pleaſed, and it ſeem good unto us.

And theſe Faculties we have Ratified and confirmed under our hand the 25th of *June*, 167?. *Card. Barbarini Protector.* *Chriſtoph. Abbas Blancas* Secretary.

The like Faculties are granted to all Romiſh Prieſts who are here in *England.*

Cardinal *Vendoſm*'s faculty to the Cannons Regular of St. *Auguſtin*'s in the *Gallican* Church.

LUDOVICUS Sanctæ Mariæ in porticu Diaconus Cardinalis de Vendoſme, nuncius ad ſereniſſimum Dominum, Dominum Ludovicum Franciæ & Navarræ Regem Chriſtianiſſimum, & univerſum illius Regnum illiuſque Provincias Dominia, Civitates, oppida, terras, & Loca eidem Regi ſubjecta dictoque regno adjacentia cæteraque alia Loca ad quæ nos declinare contigerit, S. D. N. Clementis Divina Providentia Papæ IX. & ſedis Apoſtolicæ a latere Legatus, Dilectis nobis in Chriſto filiis Canonicis Regularibus Sancti Auguſtini, Gallicanæ Congregationis pro Converſione Infidelium, Hæreticorum & Schiſmaticorum in Domino ſalutem & benedictionem ſempiternam, nos igitur de veſtra Pietate Charitate prudentia integritate Scientia & experientia plene confidentes ſperanteſque quod ea quæ vobis duxerimus committenda ſollicite fideliterque gerere & adminiſtrare curabitis id circa vos ex noſtra ſcientia liberaque & ſpontanea voluntate magnos Miſſionarios & pœnitentiarios Apoſtolicos fecimus & conſtituimus facimuſque & conſtituimus vobisque pleniſſimam conferimus & concedimus facultatem verbum Divinum prædicandi confeſſiones quorum eumque pœnitentium Sacramentaliter audiendi ipſiſque oblationis beneficium impertiendi ab omnibus caſibus & cenſuris aut aliis quomcdocumq; ſanctæ ſedi & Epiſcopis reſervatis abſolvendi, Sacramenta quæcunq; excepta confirmatione & ordinatione adminiſtrandi; in votis exceptis caſtitatis & Religionis & Juramentis cum juſta cauſa ſubeſt diſpenſandi ſicut etiam in obſervatione Jejuniorum aliisq; Legibus Eccleſiaſticis, nec non in irregularitatibus quibus Libet ex delicto occulto provenientibus, aliisque omnibus & quibuscumque caſibus in quibus ſummus Pontifex diſpenſare poteſt Libros prohibitos legendi & Hæreticos in græmium Eccleſiæ recipiendi quomodo errores ſuos hæreſes & ſchiſmata coram notario & teſtibus publice vel privatim deteſtati fuerint, abjuraverint & anathematizaverint injuncta eis pro modo culpæ pœnitentia ſalutari, Denique omnia dicendi gerendi decernendi

di & exequendi quæ ad munus Missionariorum & magnorum pœnitentiariorum pertinet in quorum omnium & singulorum fidem præsentes litteras manu nostra signavimus ac sigilli nostri appositione voluimus communiri Datum parisius die vigessima Maij *millesimo sexcentisimo sexagessimo octavo pontii ejusdem, S. D. N. Papæ anno primo*

L. Cardinlis de Vendosme Leg.

Locus Sigilli.

De Bontls auditor & Secretarius Legationis.

Englished, as followeth.

LEwis of *Vendosme*, Cardinal; Deacon of *Sancta Maria* in Portico, Legate a Latere from our Holy Lord *Clement* the Ninth, by the Divine Providence Pope; and from the Apostolic See, to the most Serene Lord *Lewis* the most Christian King of *France* and *Navarre*, and to his whole Kingdom and all his Provinces, Dominions, Cities, Towns, Lands, and places belonging to the said King, and adjacent to his said Kingdom, and to all other places where we shall happen to come: To Our dearly beloved Sons in Christ the Cannons Regular of St. *Augustine* of the *Gallican* Congregation for the Conversion of Infidels, Hereticks, and Schismaticks, Greeting in the Lord and Eternal Benediction, We fully confiding in your Piety, Charity, Prudence, Integrity, Knowledge, and Experience, and hoping that what we have thought fit to intrust unto you, you will carefully and faithfully manage and administer, have therefore made and constituted, make and constitute [illegible] our knowledge and free and meer motion, great *Missinaries* and *Apostolical Penitentaries*: [illegible] nted, and do grant unto you full power of Preaching the Divine Word, and of hearing Sacramentally the Confessions of all Penitents, and to impart unto them the benefit of Absolution from all Cases & Censures; and of Absolving from all things in any manner reserved unto the Holy See, or unto Bishops; of Administring all Sacraments, except Confirmation and Ordination; and of dispensing with Vows, except those of Chastity and Religion, *and with Oaths where there is just cause*, as also with the Observation of Fasts and other Ecclesiastical Laws, and all *Irregularities* whatsoever proceeding from a *hidden sin*, and all other Cases whatsoever where the Pope can Dispence. And of reading forbidden Books, and receiving Hereticks into the Bosom of the Church, provided they do detest, abjure, and anathematize their Errors, Heresies and Schisms before Witnesses Publickly or Privately, enjoyning unto them a salutary Penance according to the measure of the fault. Lastly of saying, doing, decreeing and performing all things belonging to the Office of Missionaries and great Pententiaries. *In testimony whereof we have* Signed these present Letters with Our hand, and Sealed them with Our Seal. Given at *Paris* the 20th of *May* 1668. and in the first Year of Our said Holy Lord.

L. Cardinals de *Vendosme* Legatus.

De *Bontils* Auditor & Secretarius Legationis.

The place of the Seal.

An Instrument constituting Benedict Stapilton, *Prior of* Canterbnry.

NOS Fr. Augustinus *Hungate Præsbiter & Monachus Ordinis S. Benedicti Congregationis Anglicanæ ejusdem ordinis Præses Generalis* &c. *Reverendo in Christo Patri & ac confratri nostro Patri Benedicto Stapilton ejusdem congregationis Præsbitero & Monacho Electo Priori Cathedralis Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis salutem in Christo sempiternam*

Visa Electione personæ Reverentiæ tuæ in Priorem prædictæ Ecclesiæ conventusque Cathedralis Cantuariensis Canonicæ & legitime celebrata. acceptaque de more obedientia Reverentiæ tuæ nobis & successoribus nostris promissa in scriptis exhibita facta quoque per Reverentiam tuam publica Catholicæ fidei professime juxta sacri Tridentiti Concilii Canones & Bullam Pii Quarti Pontificis Maximi, Authoritati Sc. Sedis Apostolicæ, necnon & Capli nostri Gralis qua utraque hac in parte fungimur Reverendam & Dilectam nobis Fraternitatem tuam Reverende in Christo Pater Benedicte Stapilton *indicto Prioris Cathedralis Officio ac Dignitate tenore presentium Confirmamus: Mandantes prout per præsentes pariter mandamus Conventui Cathedralis Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis præfatæ,*

omni-

omnibuſque ac ſingulis Monachis quatenus Reverendam Paternitatem tuam pro vero Priore ſuo Cathedrali legitimoque ſuo Superiore ac Prælato regulari recipiant, habeant agnoſcant, & eidem reverenter juxta conſtitutiones noſtras obſequantur.

In quorum fidem has confirmationis litteras nomine noſtro Secretarii noſtri ſubſcriptas & Sigillo magno Sanctæ Congregationis noſtræ munitas expediri juſſimus. Datum Londini 14. Maij *Anno Domini* 1666.

Fr. Aug. Hungate Præſes Gralis,
Demandato admodum R. Præſidis

Fr. Guilielmus à Sancto Benedicto Secretarius Præſidis.

Locus Sigilli

Engliſhed as followeth.

WE Fr. *Auguſtine Hungate* Prieſt and Monk of the *Engliſh* Congregation the Order, *&c.* To the Reverend Father in Chriſt and our Fellow-Brother, Father *Benedict Stapleton,* Prieſt and Monk of the ſame Order, Elected Prior of the Cathedral Church of *Canterbury*; do wiſh Eternal Happineſs in Chriſt.

Having ſeen Teſtimonial Letters wherein your Reverence is declared to be Lawfully and Canonically choſen, Prior of the ſaid Church and Covent of the Cathedral of *Canterbury* and having according to form and cuſtom received the Obedience which your Reverence hath exhibited in writing and promiſed to us and our Succeſſors: And your Reverence having alſo made a publick Confeſſion of the Catholick Faith according to the Canons of the Council of *Trent*, and the Bull of Pope *Pius* the IV.

We by the Authority of the Holy Apoſtolick See, as alſo of our general Chapter, whoſe power we in this execute, and whoſe place we diſcharge; do by theſe preſents confirm you the Reverend Father in Chriſt *Benedict Stapilton* in the Office and Dignity of Prior of the ſaid Cathedral, and We do by theſe Our Authentick Letters, charge and require the Covent of the aforeſaid Church of *Canterbury*, and all and ſeveral the Monks thereof, that they receive, eſteem and acknowledg your Reverence for the true Prior of that Cathedral, and as their lawfull Superior and regulate Prelate, and that with all Humility and Reverence they obey you according to the Conſtitutions of our Order In Teſtimony whereof we have ſubſcribed theſe Letters with our own Name, and have cauſed them to be ſubſcribed by our Secretary, and have alſo Commanded that they be ſealed with the Great Seal of our Holy Order. Dated at *London* May 14. 1666.

Fr. Auguſtine Hungate, Preſident General,
By the Command of the moſt Reverend Preſident.
Fr. William St. Bennet, Secretary of the Preſident.

The place of the Seal.

FINIS